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12 JUNE 1986

Worldwide Report

ARMS CONTROL

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WORLDWIDE REPORT

ARMS CONTROL

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SDI AND SPACE ARMS

MOSCOW: WHITE HOUSE 'RAILROADS' SDI THROUGH CONGRESS

LD221018 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 21 May 86

[Nikolay Borin commentary]

[Text] The United States Administration has resorted to outright blackmail to railroad through Congress its Strategic Defense Initiative, commonly known as the star wars project. A report to Congress says that if it fails to release the money to build weapons systems under that program the White House have to drop the Soviet-American ABM Treaty. Congress was told that after abrogating the treaty the White House would immediately start testing and deploying space weapons. Nikolay Borin comments:

The message to Congress failed to mention the position of American allies on the issue although Washington, when it received their consent to participating in the scheme, promised them that it would comply with the ABM Treaty. The Thatcher government then saw the promises as a guarantee that Britain would be involved only in research for the SDI. Anyway, this is what it told the alarmed public at home and in other West European NATO countries. President Reagan however, interviewed recently by the Baltimore SUN, remarked that he was longing to have space weapons and that he would agree to their partial deployment even before the work had been completed. The United States Assistant Defense Secretary Richard Perle has said that the first components of space weapons are going to be sited in space in the 10 years to come.

By the way, American military experts at a recent news conference on the SDI in Washington repeatedly called for regarding the star wars as a common project. There was much talk about the need for greater unity of the NATO members on political and military questions that have arisen or can arise as the SDI is implemented. Meanwhile, the recent attempts to make inroads into the Soviet-American SALT II treaty and the ABM Treaty showed the real worth of the White House's pronouncements. London and Bonn late last month hailed the statement of the United States special envoy Paul Nitze, who said that the President was going to abide by the restrictions under the SALT II treaty. The United States then was also urged to comply with the ABM Treaty, which curtails an arms race in space. However, less than a month after that both treaties came under fire from the administration and even became a matter of arguing between the President and Congress.

I have an impression that as soon as the question of the SDI is raised, the brainfathers [as heard] of the program -- I mean arms manufacturers, the military and politicans -- forget everything, even the allies. One of the leaders of the star wars project, George Hess, has said the United States needs a Rommel in space. This is an extremely tactless historical parallel. Rommel, as you may know, was one of Hitler's generals who fought against British troops in Africa during World War II. The comparison he has made is crystal clear -- that Washington does not care a bit about its partners' attitude to its dangerous war games in space.

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SDI AND SPACE ARMS

MOSCOW ON U.S. PLANS TO 'UPSET' ABM TREATY FOR SDI

LD230504 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 22 May 86

[Vladimir Kazakov commentary]

[Text] Congress has been told that if it does not support the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative the administration will have to violate this major treaty. But what if Congress fully supports the SDI program and appropriates the funds requested? Then the ABM Treaty will be broken all the same. To justify this, the so-called limited interpretation of its articles is used. But the treaty is concrete. Article 1 of the treaty bans the deployment of the national ABM system. But this is the principal aim of work under the SDI program. Article 5 bans the development, testing and deployment of this system or its space-based components. But SDI implies moving weapons into space. In defiance of Article 6, phased-array radars are being installed in Greenland and Britain. A station using the elements of a radar tested against missiles has been mounted on the Aleutian Islands in violation of the treaty. MIRV warheads for antimissiles are being developed.

How can this square with the assurances of the adminstration that the United States would like to see nuclear weapons scrapped and arms limited and curtailed? American experts themselves note that the 1972 ABM Treaty is a major arms race deterrent. Their talk about striving for disarmament and stability seems to be empty talk. Facts show the wish to upset the ABM Treaty is just a link in the chain of actions carried out by the administration to whip up the arms race and secure arms supremacy. The Pentagon now feels the treaty limitations are too fettering.

Space-arms systems conflict with the ABM Treaty. A new generation of nuclear offensive systems cannot be fitted into the framework of SALT II. When the United States equips its B-52 bombers with long-range cruise missiles it will exceed the permissible ceilings of the SALT II treaty by the end of the year. That's why Washington has already told the allies it may upset some of the treaty articles. And for the same reason the Reagan administration is offering Congress the absurd alternative: severing the ABM Treaty either at once or gradually. Experience shows nothing good can come out of an arms race escalation. In the past, retaliatory measures always ensured, and the world kept growing more explosive.

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SOVIET PAPER HITS U.S. 'MANIPULATION' OF ABM TREATY

PM270740 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 May 86 First Edition p 3

[A. Mozgovoy "Commentary": "Treaty Under Threat"]

[Text] The U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency has published a collection of materials containing an unequivocal threat that, if Congress cuts appropriations for President Reagan's "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI), the White House will "review its commitment" to stick to the terms of the ABM Treaty of indefinite duration and will resort to a "broader interpretation" of the agreement.

It is not a new idea, in fact. Only last year the U.S. Administration launched a perfidious attack on the ABM Treaty to give the military-industrial complex a clear run at implementing the "star wars" program. New York lawyer (F. Kansberg), who specializes in combating the mafia and pornography, was instructed to sabotage this very important agreement. U.S. success in this sphere is unconvincing. But this fact did not bother the organizers of the subversive act—U.S. Under Secretary of Defense F. Ikle and Assistant Secretary of Defense R. Perle. They have deliberately confused pornography with politics on the banks of the Potomac. (Kansberg) was given his money, and without further ado he did his dirty work. He wrote a "study." It came up with the absurd idea that the ABM Treaty authorizes the development [razrabotka] and testing of space strike complexes.

Senior figures in the Washington Administration eagerly latched on to (Kansberg)'s conclusions. But the "broad" interpretation of the treaty caused a wave of protest in the United States. Some eminent U.S. international lawyers opposed it. "The unilateral rejection of the agreed interpretation of the treaty in order to aid the implementation of programs for the creation [sozdaniye] of new weapons undermines the rule of law on which the international system is based," a letter signed by former secretaries E. Richardson, (Sh. Khafstedler), and C. Vance and Dean of the Harvard University Law School E. Griswold points out. Ambassador G. Smith, who headed the U.S. delegation at the talks to elaborate the ABM Treaty, said that the new interpretation would make this very important document a "dead letter." The Republican Administration backpedaled. The "broad" interpretation was replaced by a "narrow" one which, incidentally, is also a revision of the treaty, but less so.

To all appearances, Washington is now launching a new campaign in favor of the "broad" interpretation of the agreement. This time it is putting forward the argument that a "new approach" will save considerable amounts of money. Apparently, strict observance of the treaty is wasteful in that it "bars the way to certain major tests of ABM technology." Strange logic, to say the least! How can a reduction in appropriations for brand-new space armaments result in overexpenditure?

Of course, it is not a matter of a prudent attitude toward the federal budget, but of something else. "Senior Pentagon representatives are trying to use the economic arguments in order to break with a treaty to which they are totally opposed," THE NEW YORK TIMES writes. This is the reason for Washington's current gymnastics over "savings"! Through the full implementation of SDI U.S. militarist circles are hoping to acquire military superiority over the USSR. But they cannot count on it. Our country will find a sufficiently swift, effective, and less expensive reply. Once the United States, possessing substantial advantages in terms of numbers of nuclear munitions and delivery means, still entertained the hope that with the acquisition of a new type of "wonder" weapon it would be able to dictate to the world. In conditions of strategic parity such designs are sheer illusion. Moreover, anyone who tries to make a sprint in the arms race may end up the loser in the end.

The Soviet Union is a consistent opponent of military rivalry. It is proposing that concrete steps be taken in disarmament. "If the arms race spreads to new areas, if the ABM and SALT-II treaties are undermined," M.S. Gorbachev said during his meeting with Spanish Prime Minister F. Gonzalez, "the degree of distrust will increase in a geometric progression, undermining the stability of international relations even further." Washington's manipulation of the ABM Treaty may have the most disastrous consequences for the security of all countries, including the United States itself.

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TASS: WEINBERGER HOPES FOR AUSTRIAN PARTICIPATION IN SDI

Weinberger in Austria

LD201938 Moscow TASS in English 1913 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Vienna May 20 TASS -- The U.S. Secretary of defense, Caspar Weinberger, who is making a tour of a number of West European countries, has arrived in Austria, a first post-war visit by the head of the U.S. Defense Department to this country.

According to local observers, Washington's emissary is going to discuss in Vienna the problem of Austria's contribution to the defense of the West. Even the interview, given by Weinberger to the newspaper "DIE PRESSE" [words indistinct] bears proof of the undisguised pressure put by Washington on neutral Austria in this question. That the Austrian Armed Forces are demonstrating convincing selfdefense capability is a positive contribution to the NATO deterrence and defense, he said. Weinberger in actual fact supported attempts by certain forces in Austria which seek to remove a clause from the State Treaty which bans Austria's possession of missiles. Caspar Weinberger expressed the "hope" that Austrian firms would show interest in orders related to the "Strategic Defense Initiative."

Austrian Protests

LD212213 Moscow TASS in English 1152 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Vienna May 21 TASS -- The U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger today completed his official visit to Austria. In Vienna he had negotiations with Federal Chancellor of Austria Fred Sinowatz, Foreign and Defence Ministers Leopold Gratz and Helmut Kruenes.

The visit of the U.S. defence secretary was met with numerous protests of Austrian progressive organisations against the policy of the American Administration. In a joint statement they demanded that the United States should stop the star wars preparations and renunciate nuclear tests.

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SDI AND SPACE ARMS

TASS: SKEPTICISM ABOUT SDI GROWING AMONG AMERICANS

LD291904 Moscow TASS in English 1803 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 29 May (TASS)--TASS News Analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

Scepticism about "star wars" program described by the White House as the "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI), is growing among Americans, also in the U.S. Congress.

From the time SDI originated, the idea of the militarisation of outer space was not supported by most Americans, and now many of those who at first had fallen for the administration's propaganda come to doubt the expediency of the so-called "space shield" and express the justifiable concern that the "star wars" programme might be a spur to an uncontrolled nuclear and space arms race.

One of the reasons behind such attitudes on Capitol Hill is the growing opposition to the "star wars" programme by American scientists and technicians who are convinced that this programme has an extremely destabilising and provocative nature, said representative of the Federation of Scientists Kathleen Hancock.

56 American laureates of the Nobel Prize, 700 members of the U.S. Academy of Sciences declared against SDI. 46 senators, the other day, voiced their negative attitude to the implementation of the "star wars" plans.

People declare against SDI for various reasons, but the main one is the conviction that the implementation of SDI will undoubtedly lessen international security. For the very idea of "star wars" rests on the belief that a nuclear catastrophe is possible, that one side can deal a strike by nuclear weapons at nuclear weapon systems of the other side. In this case, in expert opinion, the globe will be swathed in lethal radiation within hours.

Certain persons in the West, speculating on the bitter experience of Chernobyl, whip up a "wave of indignation" against nuclear power stations, call in question the expediency of atomic power engineering altogether. Meanwhile they regard it quite possible to tolerate and even justify the build up of the nuclear potential of the United States and its allies in NATO.

One would look in vain for logic in such an approach to the problem of ensuring man's security. The Soviet Union holds a clear cut stand in this matter. In contrast to SDI, it advances a comprehensive programme of security of all sides, all peoples: It suggests that the globe be rid of all types of nuclear and chemical weapons by the beginning of the next century. But disregarding Soviet proposals, they in Washington continue nuclear testing in Nevada, speed up the implementation of "star wars" programme. They, apparently, still fail to realise that life brought mankind to a threshold where, just as a combat engineer defusing mines, it can make a mistake only once and that mistake will be fatal.

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SOVIET REPORTAGE ON WEST EUROPEAN OPINIONS ON SDI

French Leaders Split

LD281759 Moscow TASS in English 1629 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Paris May 28 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin reports:

What is official France's attitude to American plans of militarisation of outer space?

A few months ago the answer could be only one -- negative. Both the president of the country and the then government repeatedly declared against the notorious "Strategic Defence Initiative" and rightfully stressed that it inevitably leads to a new twist in the arms spiral, to spreading the arms race to outer space and precarious disruption of the existing military equilibrium.

Such an unequivocal answer cannot be given today. Statements which were made in the past few days by top leaders of the country testify to differences that appeared between the new right-wing majority government and the socialist president, and to the shaping of dangerous changes in that question.

Speaking to journalists at the French Diplomatic Press Association, Prime Minister Jacques Chirac openly backed American "star wars" plans, declaring that the government treats these plans "very positively" and will not tolerate France's staying away from SDI explorations. Foreign Minister Jean Bernard Raimond spoke in the same vein in the course of the debate in the Senate.

These pronouncements which testify to the obvious heightening of right-wing and pro-American tendencies in the new cabinet's foreign policy were not left unanswered. President Francois Mitterrand, speaking to cadets of the Academy of Land Forces in Coetquidan (Morbihan department) has said that, as before, he is against France's being drawn into SDI. French defences have long been based on nuclear deterrent strategy which ought to be independent. Nobody has the right to decide France's future for it, he said.

Our country shall not allow to be drawn into a conflict contrary to its wish. It is true to its allied obligations but it does not intend to draw itself to a greater extent, as it befits an independent country, into mechanisms "within the framework of which it will not be able to freely and fully participate in taking decisions." In this case the president did not mention the star wars programme, but, as is noted by political observers, the meaning of his words is absolutely clear.

The French public express concern over the intention of the right-wing government to tie the country to American star war plans. The peace champions are mobilizing their forces all over the country. On the initiative of the influential anti-war organisation, "the call of 100," they decided to hold a national demonstration in the capital on June 15, this year. It will be keynoted by the slogans of struggle against the arms race, primarily nuclear, against militarisation of outer space.

Raimond Interested

LD280951 Moscow TASS in English 0847 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Paris May 28 TASS -- Jean Bernard Raimond, French minister of foreign affairs, speaking in the Senate during a debate on foreign policy matters, has stated that France cannot stand aloof from the technological development which Reagan's 'Strategic Defence Initiative' (SDI) is supposed to bring about. Thus, he again confirmed the stand of Prime Minister Jacques Chirac who had stated recently the 'positive attitude' of the government of rightist majority to the U.S. "star wars" programme. The French foreign minister insisted on its being important for Paris to continue consultations with the United States and West European partners about SDI. It is noted here that President Francois Mitterand of France comes out against the country's participation in the U.S. space militarization programme.

Mitterrand Opposed

LD272230 Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Paris, 28 May (TASS)--President Francois Mitterrand of France has declared once again against France's participation in the U.S. "Strategic Defense Initiative." Our country does not wish to be drawn into a conflict contrary to our will, he said in his speech to students of the Land Forces School in Coetquidan, Morbihan Department.

Mitterrand reiterated France's commitment to its obligations and alliances and noted that its participation in engagement depended exclusively on the country itself. At the same time, he declared for preserving the present nuclear deterrence strategy which, he said, ensures France's independence.

In his recent speech the Prime Minister of France Jacques Chirac is known to have supported the outer space militarization plans of the U.S. Administration.

Spain's Serra Voices 'Doubts'

LD282256 Moscow TASS in English 1736 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Madrid May 28 TASS -- Spanish Defence Minister Narciso Serra has voiced serious doubts as to "expediency" of the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative. Judging by the experience of other countries, participating in the SDI, he said, speaking at sessions of the fund for exploration of questions of peace and international relations, the Star Wars programme can hardly be "a positive element" in conducting a trans-Atlantic dialogue. The minister expressed anxiety that realisation of the programme might entail escalation of the arms race.

The Government of Spain has not yet officially determined its stand on Spain's possible participation in SDI projects. The inter-ministerial commission has elaborated a special report on the issue, which is now being studied.

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SDI AND SPACE ARMS

SOVIET GOVERNMENT ISSUES STATEMENT TO ISRAEL ON SDI

Interests of International Security

PM27105C Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 May 86 First Edition p 4

[Contrary to the Interests of International Security -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] The Soviet Union has issued a statement to the Israeli Government regarding the signing in Washington on 6 May 1986 of the agreement on Israel's joining in the U.S. "Strategic Defense Initiative."

The statement stresses that the Israeli Government cannot but know that that program is designed to spread the weapons race into outer space and turn space into a zone of military rivalries and confrontation. The plans to create a qualitatively new class of strike weapons and deploy them in outer space is a component part of the global strategy of the United States, which is striving to upset the prevailing military-strategic equilibrium and to elevate the arms race to a qualitatively new level.

It is obvious that if outer space is packed with weapons it will be a serious blow to mankind's hopes for creating an all-embracing international security system and delivering the world from nuclear weapons before the end of this century. Instead, mankind will be faced with a disastrous threat, about which the Soviet Union has warned more than once.

Complicity in the implementation of the U.S. plans for the militarization of outer space runs counter, as the Soviet Union is convinced, to the aspirations of all people, including the Israeli people.

By making its "contribution" to turning near-earth space into an arena of confrontation, the Israeli leadership thus contributes to an aggravation of general tension in the world and consequently in the Middle East. There is no doubt that along with a growth of tensions prospects for the attainment of a just Middle East settlement in the interests of all states and people involved will become even more remote.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly expressed its clear evaluation of the SDI program as that fraught with an enormous threat to mankind, as directed against a turn for the better in international affairs. Those who join in its implementation should realize the measure of their responsibility.

The Soviet side, the statement says, hopes that the Israeli Government will draw proper conclusions in favor of preventing the spreading of the arms race into outer space and strengthening universal security.

The statement to the Israeli Government was turned over through the Foreign Ministry of Finland, which represents the USSR's interests in Israel.

IZVESTIYA Condemns Ties

LD242115 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1629 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 24 May (TASS) -- Tel Aviv's decision to participate in the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative should be viewed as a new substantive factor in the military-political situation in the Middle East, which lends even greater acuteness to the unregulated crisis and after a fashion extends its regional boundaries, 'IZVESTIYA' writes today. Israel's involvement in the strategic programs of the United States, the newspaper comments, whips up the arms race in this region for which the selfsame Israel was one of the sources.

The new military partnership with the United States evidently rouses the aggression of the Israeli military. It is no coincidence that precisely after announcing its participation in SDI, Israel sharply intensified the campaign of threats and blackmail with respect to Syria to the approving accompaniment of Washington and London.

However, no references to the regional situation can hide the important fact that Tel Aviv's involvement in the implementation of the "star wars" program goes far beyond the boundaries of the realities of the Middle East. It means that Israel is becoming a participant in the global plans of the U.S. Administration and its nearest NATO partners, 'IZVESTIYA' stresses.

The decision of the Tel Aviv government to become a participant in SDI logically flows from the spirit and the imperatives of the American-Israeli strategic alliance. In other words, Washington believes that the time has come for Israel to pay for American aid. The United States, encouraging Israel's regional ambitions, is clearly interested in bringing Israel into the orbit of a global anti-Soviet strategy. However, the newspaper writes, for the Israeli leaders to blindly follow the imperious course of Washington will neither strengthen Israel's security nor will it bring political dividends. Through their decision, the Israeli leaders are deepening the abyss of enmity and confrontation dividing it from its Arab neighbors, and are complicating its international positions.

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SDI AND SPACE ARMS

BRIEFS

NONSUPPORT OF SDI--Luxembourg, 26 May (TASS)--Serious disapproval of the "star wars" program, strenuously carried on by the U.S. Administration, in the Western world has made itself feel new today at the spring session of the North Atlantic Assembly, which has closed here. Some 200 parliamentarians from 16 NATO countries which took part in it refused to support in the final resolution the U.S. "Strategic Defense Initiative." Following a vote by the overwhelming majority, a declaration of support for the "star wars" program was dropped from the text of the resolution. Most members of the delegation of U.S. Congress to the session also joined opposition to the declaration of support. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1524 GMT 26 May 86 LD] /9738

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U.S.-USSR GENEVA TALKS

KARPOV INTERVIEWED ON PROGRESS OF FIFTH ROUND

LD241328 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 24 May 86

[Interview with V. Karpov, head of the USSR delegation at the Geneva arms negotiations on nuclear and space weapons, by Radio Moscow correspondent Vladimir Dmitriyev, in Switzerland; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Dmitreyev] Viktor Pavlovich, what can be said about the state of negotiations now that 2 weeks have passed since the latest round -- the fifth round -- opened?

[Karpov] Two weeks is, of course, not a great deal of time to advance negotiations to the point where they would require a different assessment. Nevertheless, the fifth round was preceeded by four rounds -- practically a year of negotiations -- and they have revealed sufficiently fully both the differences between the sides and the possibilities which in our view can be made use of for these negotiations to achieve mutually acceptable solutions, to form the basis of major solutions -- solutions that could indeed strengthen the security of both the United States and the USSR, and contribute to strengthening international security by achieving the program of nuclear disarmament advanced by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on 15 January. Stage one of that program constitutes the substance of the negotiations between the USSR and the United States on offensive strategic weapons.

[Dmitriyev] The U.S. side continues to insist that it will not give up its Strategic Defensive Initiative program.

[Karpov] Yes, and so far our U.S. partners have not been able to explain to us how implementing the SDI program, as it is called in the United States, could correspond to a solution to the problem of preventing an arms race in space.

This point is one of the agreed general aims of the negotiations. In this plane indeed there is no progress and presumably there can be none if the U.S. side continues to insist on carrying out its star wars program. A serious, fundamental amendment to the U.S. position is required here.

[Dmitriyev] Speakes, the White House representative, declared a few days ago that possibilities exist for achieving an accord on medium-range missiles in Europe in the immediate future.

[Karpov] If it was possible to reach agreement on eliminating Soviet and U.S. missiles in Europe, which forms the essence of the Soviet position -- that is how it has already been formulated in the nuclear disarmament program advanced by the USSR -- it would be a major step in the cause of strengthening European security and, of course, it would have a major effect on universal security. If White House representative Speakes has in mind the proposal that the USSR recently submitted at the negotiations in the form of a draft agreement on eliminating Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe, one hopes that this is an expression of a serious attitude by the White House toward the submitted Soviet draft. However, I would not like to draw final conclusions now. Time will show how much progress can be made here in the work of agreeing on specific formulations of an agreement. The Soviet side is ready for such work. Things will depend on the U.S. side.

[Dmitriyev] I would like to clarify whether the U.S. position corresponds to the accords reached in the joint statement adopted at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting.

[Karpov] I think that in essence the United States is going for a reexamination of what was agreed to at the summit by the USSR and U.S. representatives.

[Dmitriyev] A reexamination in which direction?

[Karpov] Naturally, a reexamination in a worsening direction. That is to say, for example, if we have an accord on the necessity of preventing an arms race in space, the U.S. side is attempting to present its SDI program as a program to prevent an arms race in space, which, as the saying goes, just does not hold water. If we are talking about preventing the arms race on earth, which is a sensible objective, the United States in its position in essence does not want to adopt the sort of measures that would indeed end the arms race on earth. They want to leave loopholes, channels for continuing the race in directions which are to their advantage. Calculations to achieve one-sided military advantages over the USSR have never been justified and never will. We will take the appropriate measures to guarantee our security. But that would not be our choice. Our choice is a precise accord between the two countries on preventing the arms race in space and halting it on earth.

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U.S.-USSR GENEVA TALKS

TASS REPORTS ON MEETINGS OF FIFTH ROUND

Round Opens 8 May

Moscow TASS in English 0925 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Geneva, 8 May (TASS)--The scheduled 5th round of talks between the USSR and the U.S. on nuclear and space arms opened here today.

The Soviet delegation is led by Viktor Karpov, and the American by Max Kampelman.

INF Group 22 May

LD221112 Moscow TASS in English 1110 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Geneva, 22 May (TASS)--The group on medium-range nuclear armaments held its meeting here today within the framework of the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space armaments.

Strategic Group 21 May

LD211130 Moscow TASS in English 1127 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Geneva, 31 May (TASS)--The group on strategic arms held a meeting here today in the framework of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons.

INF Group 29 May

LD291134 Moscow TASS in English 1125 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Geneva, 29 May (TASS)--The group on medium-range nuclear weapons today met at the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons here. The group on space weapons also met today.

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U.S.-USSR GENEVA TALKS

USSR FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESS CONFERENCE ON U.S., SOVIET STANCE

PM201110 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center"]

[Text] A press conference for Soviet and Foreign Journalists on questions concerning nuclear and space weapons talks was held at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center on 16 May. It was attended by A.A. Bessmertnykh, USSR deputy foreign minister, and Colonel General N.F. Chervov, chief of a directorate of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff.

A statement at the opening of the press conference said that of late the U.S. Administration has again been spreading fabrications about the USSR's position at the talks on nuclear and space weapons. Official U.S. spokesmen, including the President himself, claim that the U.S. side has made new and far-reaching proposals at the Geneva talks, but Moscow is still failing to reply to them.

Proceeding from the urgent task of releasing mankind from the nuclear threat, the Soviet Union has put forward in the last few months alone an integrated program for the complete and universal elimination of nuclear and other types of mass destruction weapons by the year 2000. It has put forward new proposals on destroying chemical weapons and on considerably reducing all components of ground forces and tactical aircraft in Europe. In the Political Report to the 27th CPSU Congress, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev presented the innovative and creative Basic Principles of an All-Embracing International Security System. More than 9 months ago the Soviet leadership, displaying state wisdom and a high sense of responsibility, announced a unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions and, as M.S. Gorbachev said on 14 May, it has decided to extend it to 6 August this year.

What has the United States done in this time? It has done a great deal, not in the sphere of limiting and reducing arms, but in the sphere of building up all types of arms and in the elaboration of concepts and doctrines to justify the militarization of space and strong-arm aggressive foreign policy methods. The U.S. reluctance to do anything real to curb the arms race was laid bare on the question of halting nuclear weapon tests. As for the Geneva talks on nuclear and space armaments, in the previous four rounds the U.S. side came up with nothing new compared with what it had said earlier, which it knew to be unacceptable. Therefore, the U.S. figures' claim that the United States submitted something new at the talks on 1 November 1985 and 24 February 1986 does not square with the facts.

Equally far from the truth are the U.S. Administration's claims that the aforesaid U.S. proposals have been left unanswered by the Soviet Union.

First, the Soviet side's principled reply consists in the abovementioned far-reaching, large-scale, and well considered proposals. Second, the Soviet side carefully analyzed the proposals submitted by the United States on 1 November 1985 and during the talks with Secretary of State G. Shultz in November 1985, and at the actual talks an official evaluation was made of the proposals and it was demonstrated in detail why they are unacceptable.

In particular, it was stressed that the U.S. proposals sidestep the main issue in the current strategic situation -- how to prevent an arms race in space, because without a ban on space-strike armaments, strategic nuclear arms limitations, not to mention deep cuts, would be meaningless.

As for the U.S. side's thoughts on strategic offensive aramaments, what it in fact has in mind is a buildup of strategic arsenals, although it is supposedly talking about a 50-percent cut.

Instead of the total level mentioned by the U.S. side of 6,000 nuclear charges on strategic delivery vehicles, a level which both sides are supposed to reach, the United States would in fact increase its number of nuclear charges to 1[illegible],000, by, for example, omitting the counting some of the nuclear charges on heavy bombers and failing to include long-range sea-based cruise missiles in the cuts.

In connection with the "intermediate agreement" on medium-range missiles contained in the U.S. side's 1 November 1985 proposals, we stated clearly that, under the proposed formula, the United States, in particular, would be able to sharply increase, by more than 100 percent, the number of nuclear charges on its medium-range missiles in Europe, whereas the number of Soviet medium-range missiles would be reduced. Washington's 24 February proposals contained nothing constructive either. In reply to the Soviet proposal on the total elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe, the U.S. side reiterated its notorious "zero option," which results in one-sided advantages for the United States and NATO.

Thus, the U.S. line at the talks on nuclear and space armaments is not geared to accords, in fact, it undermines the possibility of reaching any. Basically, the U.S. side has done its best to kill the impetus that was imparted to the talks on nuclear and space armaments by the Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva.

If Washington really wanted to help the USSR's efforts to lead the nuclear and space armaments talk out of the impasse, it could do this by switching to a businesslike and constructive discussion of questions at the fifth round of the talks, which started recently.

Question: Could you clarify the USSR's approach to resolving the question of medium-range missiles in Asia?

Answer: Our approach to medium-range missiles in Asia is laid down in the program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons -- at the second stage these missiles would be eliminated in the eastern part of the country. In that region our medium-range missiles are opposed by corresponding U.S. medium-range weapons. The USSR is prepared to resolve the question of its medium-range missiles in Asia. But at the same time it is necessary to decide the question of what to do with the U.S. medium-range weapons in the Far East.

Question: In recent days Americans have been talking a great deal about a possible change in the U.S. approach to the SALT II treaty. What can you say about this?

Answer: The Soviet side's view is that observance of the principles of the treaty, which creates barriers to the quantitative growth and qualitative improvement of the most powerful armaments -- strategic arms -- would continue to be of considerable importance for maintaining the strategic balance and ensuring favorable conditions for the elaboration of new accords on limiting and reducing nuclear armaments.

Our position on the SALT II treaty will also depend, of course, on how things stand with regard to preventing the arms race from spreading to space and U.S. observance of the ABM Treaty. The first test of future U.S. intentions with regard to SALT II should come when the next U.S. "Ohio"-class submarine begins sea trials. Unless the United States takes appropriate steps it will exceed the treaty's armaments limit of 1,200 units on ICBM's and MIRVed submarine-launched ballistic missiles. To observe the limit, it will have to dismantle the appropriate number of existing armaments.

The second test of the U.S. side's intentions will obviously come toward the end of the year, when, by equipping bombers with long-range cruise missiles, the United States will reach the treaty ceiling of 1,320 units for MIRVed ballistic missiles and heavy bombers with cruise missiles.

Washington is now saying that whereas in the first case the United States may still observe the limit, in the second case it will not. At the same time it is intended to launch a propaganda campaign accusing the USSR of alleged "noncompliance" with SALT II. The purpose is to find a pretext for relieving the United States of the restrictions that were agreed by the sides under the treaty.

Thus it is a matter of an intention to grossly violate the treaty and "wriggle" out of it by getting rid of provisions as they become obstacles to new U.S. military programs. If this happened, the United States would bear full responsibility for the consequences. The USSR would draw its own conclusions and take steps to protect its own security and the security of its allies and prevent the balance established by the treaty from being upset.

Question: The U.S. President says that he has instructed the U.S. delegation at the talks on nuclear and space armaments to "act flexibly." How do you view this statement and what instructions have been given to the Soviet delegation?

Answer: The word "flexibility" seems to be all the rage with the current administration. Before each of the previous four rounds the U.S. President maintained that he was instructing his delegation to behave "flexibly." But as the talks themselves have shown, either the U.S. delegation did not carry out its President's instructions, or the concept of "flexibility" has been given a new meaning. For why, round after round, has the United States maintained an ossified, paralyzed stance?

As for the soviet delegation, as is done before each round, it has been given creatively worked out instructions.

If the U.S. side behaves responsibly, seriously, and really flexibly, the talks will immediately be specific and fruitful.

Some other questions posed by journalists were also answered.

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U.S.-USSR GENEVA TALKS

MOSCOW PROGRAM DISCUSSES GORBACHEV PROPOSAL, ABM, SALT TREATIES

LD261733 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 25 May 86

["Top Priority" discussion program hosted by Pavel Kuznetsov with Prof. Radomir Bogdanov and Prof. Sergey Plekhanov, both from the USSR Institute for United States of America and Canada Studies -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Hello, I am Pavel Kuznetsov, your host on today's edition of "Top Priority." Our usual panel are Professors Radomir Bogdanov and Sergey Plekhanov, of the Moscow-based Institute for USA and Canada Studies. And the topic for today is the Soviet plan for nuclear disarmament by the end of this century, which was advanced on 15th January by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. We all remember the tremendous response the Soviet proposal has generated. Interest in it has not subsided even now, although much has been done by the critics of the three-stage plan to kind of neutralize the effects of this proposal, its impact on world opinion. You know, the terrible misfortune at Chernobyl was used to give a blow to arms control, although that accident had dramatized our common vulnerability to the sinister force of the atom when it gets out of control.

Anyway, at Radio Moscow we still keep receiving many letters concerning the Soviet plan and the overwhelming majority of these letters are very, very positive. However, we do receive some letters which I will describe -- which I would describe as kind of negative or responses containing fairly strong reservations. Approximately, out of 10 or 15 letters, positive letters, 1 is negative and they fall into what I believe are three basic categories. I suggest that we discuss these categories one by one. Well, I'd like to begin with the people who are -- who sound the most aggressive. They accuse us of almost every mortal sin and they say that as long as we are different, socially, politically, no disarmament is possible. What is your opinion to such an approach in Soviet-American relations, Dr. Bogdanov?

[Bogdanov] You know, I quite understand our American listeners over there, with their doubts, with their, you know, worries. They would be surprised, our American listeners, if they will find out at this end as many people, like them, also putting the same question: Are we really able to have any normal, decent relations with the Americans? I agree that mistrust, mistakes, some very unfortunate developments in Soviet-American relations, are really building a kind of a mountain of mistrust which is very unhelpful in building, you know, real base for cooperative Soviet-American relations. And if we concentrate on how to avoid that, then it's one thing. If we concentrate our efforts on how to build another mountain of this mistrust, it's another thing. What we suggest to the United States, what we suggest to the whole world, that's our belief how we should deal with this ominous common danger. [sentence as heard] If somebody else has other

suggestions of a positive kind we are open to discuss it, we are open to integrate it into our plan. But the problem is that so far what we hear from the administration people, you see -- we hear only no without any constructive proposals, you know, any constructive proposal. They take our plan stage by stage and criticize it without contributing into, maybe, what to change, to correct, what else to suggest, and things like that.

[Kuznetsov] What I had in mind when I described the people of this category was that they go by a very simple, simplistic rather, formula: Now you support national liberation movements, we don't; let's have no business with the Soviet Union because, for example, it supports Nicaragua or stands by Libya.

Now, I haven't heard a single Soviet official say that since the White House is on the side of South Africa, of the regime of apartheid, which kills hundreds and hundreds and thousands of people, let's have no business with America.

[Plakhanov] That's right. Well, there is an English saying: Cutting one's nose to spite one's face; and this is what, I think, this viewpoint boils down to. There are many differences that we have with the United States but we have overriding common interests and the major area of common interest is survival. Either we die together or we survive together, and we can survive only by means of limiting, reducing nuclear weapons and eliminating them altogether in the final analysis before they eliminate us. But the problem of trust, I think, is very important, very important. When our listeners in the United States raise this problem, I think they should do a little soul-searching and ask themselves where do they get information about the Soviet Union? The way the American media has monopolized control over the minds of the American people is astounding. No other country is that isolated from alternative sources of information about the world as Americans are. And, well, there are examples of good media work but I'm afraid that for each example of objective reporting about the Soviet Union, one can find dozens of examples of blatant untruths, distortions, and so on. But the glaring example is coverage of the Chernobyl accident. I saw the other day the front page of the New York DAILY NEWS from early May and there in bold type, you know in huge letters, there is: 15,000 Dead in Mass Graves. Yes, there is an anti-Soviet bias in the way news from the Soviet Union is reported by the American media.

[Bogdanov] But, but -- I'm sorry for interrupting you -- not only anti-Soviet bias, there is a lack of simple human logic.

[Kuznetsov] Let's go back at this point to the Soviet disarmament plan, and I'd like to describe in a nutshell the kind of people that I put in the second category. Well, by and large they agree that we would be better off with the nukes, but they say that the Soviet plan is pie in the sky, it's utopia, and -- as one listener put it -- we'd much rather have disarmament happen today than in 15 years, because with time more problems will develop. And he went on to say about what you've touched upon already, he mentioned mistrust between governments, and it is the major stumbling block, so he suggested instead of governments the whole issue of disarmament should be put in the hands of the working man, rank and file people.

[Bogdanov] I cannot believe that mistrust in that [as heard] plays a very big role. But let me put it the other way round: You know, what is the new phenomena of today? Say, before the Second World War bad politics was a source of arms race, now it's vice versa. Arms race is a source of bad politics, you know. Arms race generates bad relations between the states; that's why we say that's the source of the danger. Let's deal with the arms race -- by the way, let me remind our listeners that disarmament,

arms control, is a reality. We have some very major achievements in our Soviet-American relations. ABM Treaty: that's the major thing we have achieved on which still the whole system of arms control is based. We have some other very important treaties. So if somebody is disillusioned -- I'm also not very much optimistic but still it is possible; I believe it is possible. What is really needed is peace, words we have more than enough.

[Kuznetsov] Let's go back to the final category of listeners who object to the Soviet disarmament proposal. It's a rather curious category of people. They say: Well, you over there in Moscow, in the Soviet Union, don't know whom are you dealing with. As long as we have this administration you will have no success with it. I tend to agree with these people in view of some latest reports concerning some major Soviet-American agreements.

It's the SALT II treaty, a tentative decision by the White House to break out of it at the end of the year when they add more long-range cruise missiles to their existing fleet of B-52 strategic bombers. Now the latest report last Monday, one of the top government officials, administration officials, suggested that if Congress does not support the SDI the United States will break out of the ABM Treaty, will reconsider its commitment to the ABM Treaty of 1972. Now take the decision to produce and deploy chemical weapons, the so-called binaries, and the refusal to join us in the nuclear test ban, the moratorium on nuclear tests.

[Bogdanov] My answer -- I don't know whether you will agree with me or not -- my answer to all your questions is that this administration wants to bring their America into the next century with a very, very far, high superiority, military superiority, over the Soviet Union and over the whole world. That's why they are doing all that. That's my answer to you, I don't know, what is your opinion?

[Plekhanov] Well, I agree that this is their purpose but that doesn't mean that they will be able to do it.

[Bogdanov] Oh yes, yes.

[Plekhanov] Everybody in this world faces a problem of intentions and real possibilities. Now, our position on disarmament is not based on a desire of doing something that will please the Reagan administration. Our position is based on our perception of what the world's reality is; it is based on what must be done by the world, by the Soviet Union, the United States, other nations in order to reduce the danger of nuclear war. And the fact that the Reagan administration has not responded positively to our proposals need not discourage us from continuing to advance and to develop our position on disarmament. (?In) the first place, Reagan administration is only a few hundred people and there are 5 billion people in the world. And so I think that there must be a lot of work done in persuading the people, the public opinion [words indistinct] explaining what we mean, explaining why it is necessary. We've got to be very very patient, very very patient, but very persistent: persistent in pursuing our principles, which we think are right, and if you're persuaded that you're right you will not drop your principles because somebody else decides [words indistinct]

[Kuznetsov] [Words indistinct] our strong belief is that arms control supercedes the social, political and whatever other differences that exist. This is problem no 1. I would not say arms, I would say disarmament. [Sentence indistinct].

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SALT/START ISSUES

USSR PAPER ALLEGES U.S. PLANS TO 'TORPEDO' SALT II

PM221522 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 May 86 First Edition p 3

[Edgar Cheporov article: "SALT II: Who Is Against. Why Washington Is Torpedoing the Treaty Between the USSR and the United States"]

[Text] As is known, the SALT II Treaty, signed at the time by U.S. President J. Carter, was not ratified by the American Congress. And now Washington intends to tear up altogether this most important document relating to nuclear arms control. President R. Reagan, TIME magazine reports, has sent a "confidential letter to the leaders of West European states" informing them of an "intention to violate the SALT II Treaty already this year," when the number of B-52 strategic bombers equipped with nuclear-tipped cruise missiles exceeds the limits established by the treaty.

So, we are talking about bombers. But quite recently it was stated that in connection with the start of sea trials of a new submarine equipped with Trident missiles the U.S. President has decided to dismantle all the Poseidon submarines. Why? So as not to violate the SALT II Treaty. "It is exceptionally difficult to continue the Geneva talks on nuclear and space arms," THE WASHINGTON POST wrote in this connection, "and at the same time openly proclaim a policy of nonfulfillment of the conditions of existing agreements, even if they have not been ratified." This kind of interpretation of the presidential decision sounds completely logical--it is indeed exceptionally difficult to conduct one set of negotiations and disregard accords which have already been reached. Unfortunately this logic was immediately demolished. Here is U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger's comment on the White House decision: it is not so much a question of the President's "commitment" to SALT II, it transpires, as of the excessive cost of modernizing the submarines. And soon the U.S. President himself was stating that if he orders the scrapping of all the Poseidon submarines he will do it exclusively "on economic grounds." Thus a phenomenon from the political sphere has been transferred to the category of mundane commerce. In addition it has been decided to accelerate work on creating the Midgetman mobile ballistic missile and also to begin a study of the question of creating a bigger missile--Mobileman--with multiple warheads.

It is clear that the decision to dismantle the Poseidon, the admission of a forthcoming attack on SALT II, and also the various interpretations of these steps reflect a varying approach to the fate of this agreement in American political circles. The SALT II Treaty, I will remind you, was concluded in the summer of 1979. And soon after the signing ceremony R. Reagan, who replaced J. Carter in the White House, began stating that the treaty was "fundamentally flawed," that there was no equality between the United States and the USSR, and that the Russians had gotten "way ahead" of the Americans in strategic arms.

But is it conceivable that the Soviet Union was able within the space of a year or two to achieve superiority, especially substantial superiority, in strategic means, whose development [sozdaniye] takes many, many years?! Or maybe some unexpected facts which had previously not been taken into account had been discovered? No, no new facts had emerged. The point at issue was something quite different. K. Adelman, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, says that if the United States had ratified the SALT II Treaty "a dangerous precedent would have been set for future negotiations... since the criteria stipulated under SALT II would be used and SALT II would thus become something like a supreme law of our country...." When the debate was going on this time the President received two diametrically opposed messages from American senators. One of them asserted that the policy of "the cause of peace symbolized by SALT II" has lost its relevance. The other spoke about the inadmissibility of abandoning the limits established by this treaty. Clear differences were also discernible in the administration itself.

The source of all these differences is the failure of the attempts by those who advocate consigning SALT II to the archives to prove "violations" of it by the Soviet Union. A formula was even dreamed up--the need for a "commensurate reaction" to these violations. But it proved impossible to find a convincing reason for a reaction--no such reason exists. When, for example, the U.S. defense secretary stated recently that the USSR has exceeded the SALT II ceiling for strategic launchers, the Joint Chiefs of Staff noted that equality has not been violated. "In all probability," THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote, "it was quite irresponsible of the administration to officially accuse the Soviet Union of violating the general quantitative limits established by SALT II at a time when current data published by the Joint Chiefs of Staff testify that the Russians are adhering totally conscientiously to the required limits." The USSR considers that accords are concluded to be observed and to be used as the foundation for reaching new and even broader agreements. The USSR will seek to achieve precisely this objective in the course of the fifth round of Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms which have begun in Geneva.

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SALT/START ISSUES

USSR FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESS CONFERENCE ON U.S. SALT II POLICY

Moscow TV Broadcast

LD232107 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1900 GMT 23 May 86

[Report by unidentified announcer on 23 May Moscow press conference on the question of nuclear arms limitation, opened by Vladimir Lomeyko, chief of the Foreign Ministry Press Department, with Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Bessmertnykh, deputy foreign minister, and Marshal Sergey Akhromeyev, first deputy defense minister and chief of staff of the USSR Armed Forces, passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] A press conference took place in Moscow today on the question of nuclear arms limitation. It was opened by Comrade Lomeyko, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Department. The journalists were addressed by Aleksandrovich Bessmertnykh, USSR deputy foreign minister.

[Bessmertnykh] "According to statements by U.S. officials, the U.S. Government is now examining the question of its future attitude toward SALT II, the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. It is reported that Washington is weighing various types of action: to formally observe the provisions of the treaty for a little while, officially discard the treaty, or crawl out of it by rejecting the existing limitations as they become an obstacle to the development of U.S. strategic programs."

The types of action are varied, but their essence is the same: one way or another, today or tomorrow, to fling wide open the gates to the strongest possible arms race.

"At the same time, the U.S. Administration is once again attempting to cast a shadow over the Soviet policy regarding this treaty. The aim blatantly being pursued is to create a pretext for the United States to violate the SALT II treaty in order to justify its gamble on a further strategic arms race. All this is being done despite the fact that from the moment the SALT II treaty was signed in June 1979 the Soviet Union has built its policy in the strategic arms sphere in such a way as to ensure that the approximate parity established by that historic international legal act was not only preserved, but also strengthened. The Soviet side proceeds from the view that despite its formal expiration on 31 December 1985, the treaty remains a living and effective document embodying the results of many years of cooperation between the USSR and the United States in the seventies to end the nuclear missile arms race and strengthen strategic stability. The predominant importance of SALT II lies in the fact that, being based on the mutually recognized principle of equality and equal security, it places an obligation on the sides to observe both quantitative and substantial qualitative limitations on their strategic nuclear systems. [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian at 1205 on 23 May carries a report on the press conference and adds the

following: "The treaty established not only an initial total level of 2,400 units, but also a reduction of it to 2,250 units if the treaty was ratified. Corresponding "ceilings" were provided for and are in operation for the main groups of strategic systems -- 1,320 units for ballistic multiple independently targeted reentry vehicles (MIRV's) and for heavy armed bombers; 1,200 units for ballistic missiles (not including bombers) with multiple independently targeted reentry vehicles; no more than 820 units for ICBM's with MIRVs."]

Being a restraint on the arms race and an instrument for reducing the sides' strategic systems, the treaty has thus also worked to create a basis for consolidating the trend to further effective and substantial strategic arms reductions. Unfortunately the refusal of the U.S. Government to ratify the treaty has not permitted this trend to materialize. In the early eighties the treaty was opposed in the United States by forces that had no wish to accept the strategic parity proclaimed by the treaty -- forces striving for military superiority. The Soviet side advocates preserving everything positive that has been achieved to date in the sphere of strategic arms limitation. It proceeds from the point that observance on a reciprocal basis of the provisions of the SALT II treaty could continue to be of great importance for maintaining the strategic balance and ensuring favorable conditions for drawing up new accords on arms limitation and reduction. [TASS adds: "Of course, the USSR cannot fail to take into account here how matters will stand in relation to the prevention of an arms race in space and the observance by the United States of the ABM Treaty, which the United States is also now undermining. In other words, the Soviet Union will take into account the actions of the U.S. side from the point of view of their influence on an alteration in the strategic situation."]

"If the SALT II treaty is undermined, the United States will bear full responsibility for such a course of events. Under those conditions the Soviet Union will draw the appropriate conclusions and take measures for an effective guarantee of its own security and the security of its allies. The Government of the United States should take this into consideration."

[Announcer] One of the first questions was put to Marshal of the Soviet Union Akhromeyev, USSR chief of General Staff and first deputy defense minister. What is the significance of the SALT II treaty for restraining the arms race?

[Akhromeyev] "The SALT II treaty, even today, in the form in which it operates, restricts the deployment of the sides' strategic offensive weapons.

Had it been ratified, a more considerable contribution would have been made to restricting the arms race. But I repeat that even today it limits the strategic arms race.

"In the next few days another Ohio-type submarine will undergo sea trials in the United States. If the United States is going to observe the SALT II treaty, it will have to dismantle the missiles either on two Poseidon-type submarines or a corresponding number of Minuteman-3 intercontinental missiles. This applies, these kind of restrictions apply not just to the United States of America; they also apply to the same extent to the Soviet Union. While the SALT II treaty was in effect, we have been reducing our strategic armaments and we treat this, well, the way one should when a treaty is signed. [Moscow TASS in English at 1359 GMT on 23 May carries a report on the press conference and adds the following: "Since the time the treaty was signed, the USSR scrapped 72 ICBM launchers and 21 heavy bombers."]

All in all, under the provisional agreement, SALT II and the SALT II treaty, the Soviet Union has dismantled 540 strategic delivery vehicles, the United States -- 168. So, the accords are working. We are in favor of them continuing to work but, of course, on condition that the United States observes them."

[Lomeyko] "Thank you."

[Lomeyko points to the audience] "Your question. Go ahead, please."

[A colonel in Soviet Army uniform in the audience] "Have there been violations of the SALT II treaty by the U.S. side? And if so, what were they?"

[Akromeyev] "Yes, there are violations of the SALT II treaty by the U.S. side. Our government made detailed announcements about these in a memorandum in January 1984 and in a TASS statement of June 1985. Well, I can cite some examples. By deploying its Pershing-2 ballistic missiles and long-range cruise missiles in Western Europe, the United States thereby violates Article 12 of the treaty on noncircumvention of it. Pershing-2 missiles and long-range cruise missiles are strategic weapons in relation to the Soviet Union. In essence, the United States is creating, by circumvention of the existing strategic balance established by the SLAT II treaty, additional strategic potential."

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1545 GMT on 23 May carries a report on the press conference and adds the following:" The U.S. Administration has recently been declaring more and more often that the SALT II treaty is not subject to monitoring [kontrol]. At the press conference Comrade Akhromeyev was asked to expound the Soviet side's opinion on this issue:

It is now very fashionable -- pardon me for such an unoffial expression -- in the United States to talk about the impossibility of monitoring the fulfillment of the requirements of the SALT II treaty. When this treaty was signed, however, the previous administration of President Carter asserted quite the opposite. It is our conviction that the SALT II treaty is reliably being verified by the national technical facilities of the sides, and, in addition to this, by the requirements that have been incorporated in the treaty. Every land-based missile in out in the open, both in our country and in the United States; submarines in their bases are not concealed either -- both we and United States keep a check on them; strategic bombers at airfields are not concealed either. As far as tests are concerned, they are reliably verified. The United States started to talk about the treaty not being verified when it was decided not to ratify it: in 1980 and 1981. They are now actively talking about this only because, evidently, they are raising an axe over the treaty in order to terminate its validity."]

[TASS English adds: "In connection with allegations in the U.S. that the USSR developed and was developing the second new type of ICBM, Marshal Akhromeyev said, "The Soviet Union is testing only one new type of ICBM -- RS-22. This is allowed by the SALT-2 treaty."

"Talking about the testing in the USSR of the second new type of ICBM, the U.S. means the RS-12M missile, a modernization of our old ICBM RS-12.

"This version is based on the misinterpretation of the provisions of the SALT-2 treaty related to the composition of elements included into the so-called throw-weight of the missile.

"They do not include into the weight of the old missile RS-12 the weight of some of its elements, while unlawfully including into the throw-weight of the modernized ICBM RS-12M the weight of the equipment used during tests only.

"The aim is clear. The U.S. has developed one new type of ICBM (MX). At present, contrary to the treaty, it is developing the second new type of ICBM (Midgetman) and is seeking to find justification for this. Such is the underlying cause of the groundless accusation levelled by the U.S. against the USSR."

On President Reagan's remarks that the SALT-2 treaty was "unverifiable", Marshall Akhromeyev said that in elaborating the treaty, its content was determined in a way that would make it controlled by the sides' national technical means.

Additional measures were worked out when necessary.

The claims that the treaty was unverifiable were used in the past to thwart its ratification, and were being used at present to renounce it.

Asked about possible consequences of the U.S. refusal to comply with the SALT-2 treaty, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, deputy foreign minister of the USSR, said:

"If the U.S. renounces the treaty, the restrictions containing the arms race in all directions will be lifted and the strategic potentials of the sides will grow."

Asked about the differences, if any, in the approaches to the problems of limiting and reducing strategic armaments between the present and previous American Administrations, Bessmertnykh said:

"We have the experience of talks on limiting nuclear armament with the U.S. under the administrations of Kennedy, Nixon, Carter.

"We achieved certain treaties and agreements. The main principle that was placed at the foundation of the talks was the principle of equality and equal security.

"The sides realized that the talks were conducted by the nations equal in strength. This made it possible to conclude the SALT-1 and SALT-2 treaties, and the agreement on the prevention of nuclear war.

"The Reagan administration is undertaking an attempt to depart from the fundamental principle which makes accords possible. That principle is equal security and equality. The present administration's actions have complicated talks in all areas, including strategic, space and other nuclear armaments."]

[Man from the floor in Spanish with superimposed Russian translation] "It is now written in the West that the Soviet side has submitted a draft agreement on intermediate-range missiles at the Geneva negotiations. What can you say about the substance of the draft?"

[Bessmertnykn] "The following situation has arisen. Hardly had the Soviet delegation laid on the negotiating table in Geneva the new draft agreemtn when on the same day, or the next day, it was made public by the U.S. side and then in a distorted form.

"After that, a number of official U.S. representatives commented on this draft of ours, again in a false light. Evidently this gives me grounds, given that the negotiations are confidential, to set out briefly certain points relating to the contents of this draft.

"Yes, the Soviet Union has indeed taken a constructive new step at the Geneva talks, geared to breaking the deadlock in the negotiations, which have come to a standstill, including the sphere associated with medium-range missiles in Europe. The central provision of this draft is that an obligation should be made by the two sides, that is, the Soviet Union and the United States, to eliminate their medium-range missiles, both ballistic and cruise. Moreover, these missiles would be dismantled or destroyed together with their launchers.

"Measures are envisaged to ensure the viability of this agreement, if it is concluded: In particular, measures on the noncircumvention of the agreement and the nontransfer of both medium-range and strategic nuclear systems to other countries. Moreover, the Soviet Union has proposed that this obligation should naturally be reciprocal. Of course, the U.S. nuclear allies in NATO should not build up their relevant armaments."

[Moscow Domestic adds: "The following question was also asked at the press conference. What consequences could there be from a U.S. refusal to observe the treaty? Comrade Bessmertnykh, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, replied:

The SALT II treaty, even given its present status, nevertheless represents a considerable obstacle to the numerical buildup, the quantitative buildup of strategic armaments, and to their qualitative improvement. The question that arises is, what will happen if the United States renounces the treaty? As I have said, this is one of the possible options that the U.S. Administration will follow now: that is, a direct official renunciation. This will mean that, in effect, the restraints holding back the arms race in all its directions will be removed, and there will be an increase in the strategic potentials of the two sides, and one can even imagine the arms race in this sphere will begin to assume unpredictable parameters. As Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said recently, if SALT II and the ABM treaty are undermined, mistrust between countries will intensify in a geometric progression. This will thus have an effect not just on relations between the USSR and United States, but also on the overall international situation."]

[Announcer] Question: The Soviet Union has again extended its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests. Will this not prejudice the defense of the Soviet Union?

[Akhromeyev] "True enough, if one side tests and perfects its nuclear weapons and the other side does not, it is no doubt no great secret that the side carrying out tests derives definite advantages from this, and perhaps no small advantages at that. But the other side, which has opted for a unilateral ban on nuclear tests, gains, it seems to me, given the situation the world is in today, a great political advantage.

The fact that the Soviet Union gains this advantage not only, so to speak, as an advantage, but also that it is accommodating the peoples of the world and that it is striving to solve this problem for the interests of all peoples and not just, so to speak, for the sake of its own Soviet people -- I think this policy which the leadership of our party and the Soviet Government are pursuing is perfectly correct."

[Announcer] The participants in the press conference also replied to other questions from journalists.

[Video shows Bessmertnykh, Lomeyko, and Akhromeyev seated on rostrum on front of a large wall chart in tabular form, the writing and figures on which are indistinct. At the foot of this chart is a note in Russian and in English, shown in close-up when the camera focuses on the speakers: "Note: as of 23.5.86 the USSR and the United States have 2504 and 2210 delivery vehicles respectively: The United States has more warheads but on the whole there is an approximate parity in these weapons and systems."]

PRAVDA Report

PM261641 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the Press Center of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs"]

[Text] A press conference on nuclear arms limitation issues was held for Soviet and foreign journalists on 23 May at the Press Center of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Taking part in it were Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, and A.A. Bessmertnykh, USSR deputy foreign minister.

A statement read at the opening of the press conference pointed out that, according to statements by U.S. officials, the U.S. Government is currently considering revising its attitude toward the Treaty on the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (SALT II). Washington, it is reported, is weighing different options: to continue formal observance of the treaty's provisions for a little while yet, to withdraw from the treaty officially, or to "creep" out of it by renouncing the existing limitations as they become an impediment to the development [razveriyvaniye] of U.S. strategic programs. Different options, but amounting to the same thing: one way or another, today or tomorrow, to throw the doors wide open to a race for the most powerful armaments.

In the meantime, the U.S. Administration is again endeavoring to cast a shadow on Soviet policy toward this treaty. The aim is patently obvious: to create a pretext both for U.S. violations of SALT II and for justifying its gamble on a further strategic arms race.

The Soviet side proceeds from the premise that, despite its formal expiration on 31 December 1985, the treaty remains a living and effective document that embodies the results of the many years of USSR-U.S. cooperation in the seventies on halting the nuclear missile arms race and strengthening strategic stability. Of course, the treaty can retain this status for as long as the U.S. side refrains from actions that undermine the basic provisions of this treaty -- which has not been ratified through the fault of the United States.

The predominant significance of SALT II lies in the fact that, founded as it is on the mutually acknowledged principle of equality and identical security, it binds the sides to observe both quantitative and substantial qualitative limitations on the sides' strategic nuclear means. It established not only an initial total level of 2,400 units but also the reduction of this level to 2,250 in the event of the treaty's ratification. Corresponding "ceilings" were stipulated and are in force for the basic groups of strategic systems: 1,320 units for MIRVed ballistic missiles and for heavy bombers with their armament; 1,200 units for MIRVed ballistic missiles (excluding bombers); not more than 820 units for MIRVed ICBMs.

The Soviet side advocates the retention of everything positive hitherto achieved in the sphere of strategic arms limitation. It proceeds from the premise that the observance on a mutual basis of the provisions of SALT II would continue to be of no little importance for the maintenance of the strategic balance and for ensuring favorable conditions for the elaboration of new accords on arms limitation and reduction.

Naturally, we cannot fail to take into account here also the future situation regarding preventing an arms race in space, and U.S. observance of the ABM Treaty -- which the United States is now also undermining. In other words, we will take into consideration the actions of the American side from the viewpoint of their influence on a change in the strategic situation.

If the SALT II Treaty is undermined, then the United States will bear full responsibility for such a course of events.

In these circumstances the Soviet Union will draw the necessary conclusions and adopt measures for the effective assurance of its own security and that of its allies.

The U.S. Government must be aware of this.

Answers were given to journalists' questions.

Question: Previous U.S. Administrations have stated that the SALT II treaty meets the interests of the United States. Why then has it still not been ratified?

Answer: The SALT II treaty undoubtedly meets the security interests both of the Soviet Union and the United States. Assessing the significance of the SALT II treaty, President J. Carter emphasized in his time that "This treaty is the most important step of all those ever made in the context of establishing control over nuclear armaments." The rejection [otkloneniye] of SALT II, Carter observed, would be "a serious blow to peace and the security of the United States." However, during the debate in the United States over the treaty's ratification those circles opposing detente and advocating the buildup of military power and the achievement of military-strategic superiority over the Soviet Union prevailed.

As we know, the treaty consolidated the strategic parity between the USSR and the United States. The U.S. refusal to ratify the SALT II treaty untied the hands of these circles. Graphic confirmation of this is the "General Strategic Program" proclaimed 2 October 1981, whose implementation has now reached the stage whereby Washington has been forced to choose: either a further arms buildup or SALT II.

Question: Does the SALT II treaty have any significance at all for curbing the arms race if it has not been ratified and is not being implemented by the sides in full measure?

Answer: Even in the form in which it is in force today the SALT II treaty limits the deployment [razvertyvaniye] of the sides' strategic offensive forces.

At the end of last year, in connection with the commissioning of the seventh "Ohio" class missile submarine, the United States dismantled one "Poseidon" submarine. An eighth "Ohio" class vessel is shortly to begin sea trials. In order to observe the established level of MIRVed missiles the United States will have to dismantle two "Poseidon" submarines.

The Soviet Union has also been cutting its armaments. We regard this as normal. Since the treaty was signed the USSR has dismantled 72 ICBM launch installations and 21 heavy bombers, and overall, in line with the SALT I Interim Agreement and the SALT II Treaty, the USSR has dismantled 540 strategic delivery vehicles while the United States has dismantled 168 units.

Question: Have there been violations of the SALT II treaty by the U.S. side, and what have they consisted of?

Answer: Yes, there are violations. They were dealt with in detail, in particular, in the 27 January 1984 Memorandum, the 12 June 1985 TASS Statement, and in the Soviet-U.S. Standing Consultative Commission.

For example, by deploying in Western Europe its Pershing-2 ballistic missiles and long-range cruise missiles the United States is acting in contravention of Article XII of the treaty, which prohibits the circumvention of its provisions in any way. In terms of reaching our territory these missiles are, with regard to the Soviet Union, a strategic weapon whose capabilities are not inferior to those of an ICBM or submarine-launched ballistic missile.

Question: People in the United States claim that the USSR has created [sozdayut] and is deploying [razvertyvayet] a second new type of ICBM. What is the substance of these claims?

Answer: The Soviet Union has tested [ispytal] only one new type of ICBM -- the RS-22. This is permitted under the SALT II treaty.

In talking about the testing of a second new type of ICBM in the USSR the United States has in mind the RS-12M missile, which is a modernized version [modernizatsiya] of our old RS-12 ICBM. This story is being constructed on a distorted interpretation of the SALT II treaty provisions concerning the composition of the elements included in the so-called "throw-weight" of a missile. These people do not include in the weight of the old RS-12 missile the weight of some of its elements, while on the other hand, in the throw-weight of the modernized RS-12M ICBM, they illegally include all the equipment used only during tests. The aim is clear. The United States has created [sozdali] one new type of ICBM (MX). Now it is creating [sozdayut], in contravention of the treaty, a second new type of ICBM (Midgetman) and it is trying to find a justification for this.

Question: What might be the consequences of a U.S. refusal to observe the SALT II treaty?

Answer: If the United States renounces the treaty, this will remove the limiting devices that for several years now have ensured the maintenance of military-strategic parity between the USSR and the United States. The growth in the sides' strategic potentials in both the quantitative and qualitative respects will be practically unpredictable.

The development of armaments has already rendered the task of their limitation and reduction extraordinarily difficult. If the last remaining limits are eliminated, this task will become many times more complex. Who knows if we will then succeed in achieving an effective agreement curbing the strategic arms race.

Question: Where do you see any differences -- if there are any -- between the approaches to the problems of strategic arms limitation and reduction on the part of the current and previous U.S. Administrations?

Answer: There are differences, and not inconsiderable ones. We have experience with nuclear arms limitation negotiations with the United States under the Nixon, Ford, Carter, and incumbent administrations. We had our differences with the earlier administrations, but there was also the mutual desire to find solutions. The main element that formed the foundation of the negotiations was the principle of equality and identical security. The sides realized that the negotiations were being conducted by states that were approximately equal in terms of strength [po silam] and of issues constituting their fundamental interests. The SALT II treaty was a balanced accounting of the interests of both sides.

The Reagan administration has nullified this foundation. It has abandoned the principle of equality and identical security. Its negotiating line is to compel the USSR to accept its terms and thereby to attain military superiority, to start an arms race in space and continue the arms race on earth. During the 6 years the present administration has been in office nothing has been achieved in questions of arms reduction — while much has been destroyed.

Question: The Soviet Union has extended its unilateral moratorium. The United States is continuing its nuclear weapon tests. Will this not harm the security of the USSR?

Answer: Indeed, if one side is testing and improving [sovershenstvovat] its nuclear weapons while the other refrains from doing so, then clearly the side that is testing is seeking to obtain definite advantages from this.

But there is yet another important aspect. The side that has introduced a unilateral ban on nuclear tests in the current world situation acquires a great moral and political advantage. The General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces also proceeds from this premise. Yet in order to prevent the dismantling of the military equilibrium in particular, there will be further improvement in the combat training of the Soviet Armed Forces and further enhancement of their capability to reliably ensure the motherland's security.

Question: Reports have appeared concerning the Soviet side's submission at the Geneva talks of a draft agreement on medium-range missiles. Could you explain the substance of this proposal?

Answer: The Soviet delegation had barely placed a draft agreement on the negotiating table when the U.S. side made it public, and moreover gave it a distorted interpretation.

The Soviet Union has indeed undertaken a new constructive step in order to break the deadlock at the talks.

The central provision of the draft is a commitment by the USSR and the United States to eliminate their medium-range missile in Europe -- ballistic and cruise. Measures are envisaged to prevent the circumvention of a future agreement -- in particular the nontransfer of medium-range and strategic missiles to other countries. Moreover, the Soviet side has expressed the readiness to make such a commitment reciprocal. Naturally, the U.S. nuclear allies in NATO would not build up their own corresponding armaments. A broad range of verification [kontrol] measures, up to and including onsite inspection, is provided for.

The draft submitted by the Soviet side represents a serious document. It constitutes a good departure point for Europe's complete liberation from nuclear weapons and provides a powerful stimulus for the galvanization of the talks as a whole.

/9738
CSO: 5200/1394

SALT/START ISSUES

SOVIET COMMENTS ON U.S. DISMANTLING OF TWO POSEIDON SUBMARINES

Decision 'Forced'

LD280909 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0810 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Washington, 28 May (TASS) -- President Reagan has announced his decision to dismantle two obsolete Poseidon nuclear submarines in connection with the forthcoming start of trials for the new Nevada submarine (of the Ohio type), equipped with 24 launch units for Trident I ICBMs. This means that for the time being the United States formally remains within the framework of the limit allowed by the Soviet-American SALT II treaty of 1,200 units for ICBMs and ballistic missiles on submarines, equipped with multiple independently targeted reentry vehicles.

As observers point out, the White House decision was forced on it. It was made under powerful pressure from American and international public opinion which demand that existing Soviet-American accords on arms control not be undermined; the world must not slip toward a thermonuclear catastrophe. Proof of how widespread such feelings are is the fact that all the U.S. allies support observation of the SALT II treaty. According to an opinion poll, over 75 percent of Americans support strengthening the arms control mechanism. Fifty-two senators have demanded that the U.S. President observe the provisions of the SALT II treaty. A similar letter was also sent to the White House by over half (221) of the members of the House of Representatives. The U.S. State Department also recommended that the SALT II treaty not be undermined.

Announcing the dismantling of the old submarines, the White House at the same time clearly made it understood that in future it will not consider itself bound to the provisions of the SALT II treaty, and retained for itself the "right" to go beyond the limits established by the treaty when carrying out the program to arm B-52 bombers with cruise missiles.

'Hesitation and Delay'

OW291301 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0200 GMT 29 May 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast; Viktor Konnov commentary]

[Text] Washington. The White House official spokesman has said that the U.S. attitude toward SALT II will be determined primarily by U.S. Armed Forces requirements and not by treaty articles. Our commentary:

Hello, comrades. The concrete reason for the given statement was the commissioning of the latest U.S. Ohio-class submarine, carrying 24 Trident missiles. With its launching, the total number of U.S. missile-launching pads will exceed the limit of 1,200 units established by SALT II.

It was clear from the very beginning that, in order not to exceed this number, the United States had to dismantle the launching units in two obsolete Poseidon submarines.

A decision on submarine dismantling was adopted after long hesitation and delay. It is tempting for the U.S. Administration to present the given step as an act of goodwill, proof of observance of SALT II. But that would have imposed certain obligations on the United States, and required further observance of the treaty provisions, and this apparently did not tally with the administration's plans. For a long time, there had been talk in Washington about getting out of SALT II and existing restrictions. For this reason, the White House official spokesman said that the decision on submarine dismantling has been made in the interest of economy, and in particular because the nuclear engines of these submarines have served their time, and it would be very uneconomical to modernize or replace them. The United States has, so to speak, told the world: We do what we wish and consider only our own strategic and economic arguments, and those concerning compliance with signed agreements is a secondary matter. Pacta sum servanda -- treaties must be observed -- says an old Latin saying, otherwise what is the point of signing them.

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CSO: 5200/1394

SALT/START ISSUES

BRIEFS

U.S. SUB MISSION--[illegible]ington, 24 May (TASS)--The Pentagon reported on Friday that three U.S. nuclear power submarines joined and surfaced in the geographical point of the North Pole on 6 May. The short statement issued by the Pentagon only says that the aim of the mission of the submarines was to collect scientific information and test the combat readiness of the submarine force in conditions of the Arctic without logistic support from the bases. Richard Gross, a UPI correspondent, quoted unnamed spokesmen for the U.S. Navy as saying that the report on the operation was aimed at declaring in public a strengthening of the presence of U.S. strike submarines in the Arctic. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 0851 GMT 24 May 86 LD] /9738

CSO: 5200/1394

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

TASS COMMENTARIES ON 15 MAY SOVIET PROPOSAL

'New Opportunity'

LD161924 Moscow TASS in English 1858 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Moscow, May 16, TASS--By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev:

At the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms in Geneva, the Soviet Union has taken another step which opens a new opportunity to set the beginning to nuclear arms reduction. As the White House spokesmen already reported, on May 15 the Soviet Union tabled a new draft treaty on medium-range missiles in Europe. This question, just as the problem of complete ending of nuclear explosions can be resolved shortly, provided, certainly, that the other side shows the same constructiveness and confirms its peaceable statements by deeds.

What is the essence of the Soviet stand on medium-range missiles in Europe and in what lies its constructiveness? The USSR proposed to eliminate on a reciprocal basis the Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in the European zone, both ballistic and cruise missiles. Meeting the United States and wishes of statesmen of NATO countries, the USSR, for one thing, no longer links the solution of this question to strategic arms and non-militarisation of space. Second, it excluded the forces of Great Britain and France from the European balance of nuclear forces under consideration. Third, it has taken into consideration European's concern over operational-tactical nuclear arms of an enhanced range that had been deployed by the Soviet Union in answer to the United States' deployment of new medium-range missiles in Europe.

The only thing required of Great Britain and France is that they not build up their armaments of this kind if the agreement with the USA is reached. All matters related to this problem could become the subject of a direct exchange of opinions with the afore-mentioned countries. The United States, on its part, must assume the pledge not to supply its strategic and medium-range missiles to other countries.

On the negotiating table in Geneva is now a concrete document which sets out in the context of law the obligations of the sides for the complete elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in the European zone and for the removal of Soviet operational-tactical missiles of an enhanced range from those districts where they were deployed after the beginning of the deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe.

The responsible approach to this document will, undoubtedly, indicate a measure of political responsibility of the other party to the negotiations--the United States of America. And the USA resorts to this day to various subterfuges, tries artifically to link this matter with problems of the military balance in Asia, refuses to assume the commitment not to supply its strategic and medium-range missiles to other countries. The stand of two other NATO countries--Great Britain and France--is not marked by constructiveness and enthusiasm either. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, for instance, not only comes out categorically against a ban on quantitative build-up of Britain's nuclear-missile potential but also declares that she cannot imagine a world without nuclear arms.

The time has come to start joint efforts to make the common European home secure, so that all its peoples feel safe in their own national homes. It is high time to give an impetus to the advance along the road of ridding Europe and the whole world of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. The Soviet draft treaty on medium-range missiles in Europe is a good basis for making such a start.

U.S. Response Hit

LD201848 Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow, May 20, TASS Military News Analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

In response to the Soviet compromise proposal to eliminate American and Soviet medium-range missiles in the Euorpean zone on condition of a United States pledge not to provide its allies in Europe with additional strategic and medium-range missiles the United States administration suggested a worsened variant of the odious "zero option."

When stating its readiness to "eliminate a whole class of medium-range missiles" the United States actually proposes to liquidate all the Soviet missiles of this class. At the same time the fulfilment of the American plan provides for the preservation of American nuclear missiles on board United States naval ships in the Far East, in South Korea, in Japan and also in the Philippines, Diego Garcia Island, and at other United States bases in Asia.

More than that, Washington reserves the right to continue building up its nuclear missiles in these regions. It is well known that in the Far East alone the United States has deployed thousands of nuclear warheads, including medium-range missiles. According to the American plan these powerful nuclear forces of the United States should not be opposed by a single Soviet medium-range missile.

More than that, even the elimination of the United States medium-range missile in Western Europe under the American plan is to have a purely symbolical character. When its "comprehensive plan" is to be implemented Washington insists on the right not to liquidate its missiles in Western Europe but to hand them over to Britain and France!

In accordance with Washington's proposal the nuclear forces of the American allies in Europe are not subject to any limitations as well.

In an interview to the Austrian newspaper DIE PRESSE the head of the Pentagon Caspar Weinberger stated on Monday that the United States had "thoroughly studied" the Soviet proposals on medium-range missiles and arrived at the conclusion that "they are based on intent to tip the balance of forces in favour of the Soviet Union." As to the American proposals, which provide for a United States monopoly on medium-range missiles in Asia and a monopoly of NATO countries on such arms in Europe, they, to quote Weinberger, are "fair and balanced."

For 5 years now Washington is trying to assure the world public that the only reliable road to disarmament lies supposedly through the uncontrolled increase of NATO's nuclear arsenals. The administration in Washington says that it is possible to stop nuclear tests only if these tests are intensively conducted by the United States. Now, as though mocking the common sense of people, Weinberger in his interview to the newspaper DIE PRESSE describes the American proposals on the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union as a "comprehensive programme in the field of arms control."

The dishonest rhetoric of the head of the Pentagon reflects Washington's dishonest policy in the field of arms limitation and reduction.

/8918
CSO: 5200/1373

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

SOVIET DELEGATION HITS KAMPELMAN FOR REVEALING 15 MAY PROPOSAL

LD161501 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1435 GMT 16 May 86

["Statement [Soobschcheniye] From the USSR Delegation"--TASS headline]

[Text] Geneva, 16 May (TASS)--In Berne on 15 May, M. Kampelman, the head of the U.S. delegation, made a statement in which he reported publicly on a draft agreement on intermediate-range missiles in Europe submitted by the USSR delegation at a plenary session held that day. Moreover, M. Kampelman expressed rash and unobjective assessments of the Soviet draft. The Soviet side, guided by the principle of confidentiality that is in effect at the talks, did not report having submitted the draft. The USSR delegation deems it necessary to draw attention to the one-sided and distorted qualification of the Soviet proposal expressed by the head of the U.S. delegation.

The submitting by the Soviet Union of the draft agreement, which has been drawn up in strict juridical form, is a major event at the talks, testifying to the aspiration of the Soviet side to make into fact the decisions of principle made in connection with the talks on nuclear and space weapons at the Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva in November 1985.

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CSO: 5200/1373

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE ON NUCLEAR ISSUES

PM141403 Paris LE MONDE in French 10 Apr 86 p 3

[Unattributed report: "USSR Is Not at Present Calling for End to French Nuclear Tests"]

[Excerpts] The USSR is in no way asking for an end to French nuclear tests and is not now conducting any direct negotiations on this with France, Yuliy Vorontsov, USSR ambassador to France said Tuesday, 8 April.

Addressing the Diplomatic Press Association, Mr Vorontsov stressed that the Soviet Union's main priority in foreign policy was to reach an agreement with the United States on halting the arms race, starting with a complete end to American and Soviet nuclear tests in the immediate future. "We want practical measures" in this sphere, he added, citing the English expression "we won't take 'no' for an answer."

The ambassador added that there was no question of Moscow negotiating with the Americans on the question of French nuclear weapons. "If necessary, we know whom to contact," he stressed, adding that the USSR would start "talks with France at the appropriate time" on this subject.

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CSO: 5200/1373

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

USSR: NATO BODIES CONSIDER SITING U.S. BINARY ARMS IN EUROPE

'Behind Public's Back'

LD041653 Moscow TASS in English 1208 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Brussels, 4 May (TASS)--The United States is stepping up preparations for deploying a new generation of chemical weapons in Europe. According to the Brussels-based bulletin NATO REPORT the Reagan Administration will try already this month to secure behind the world public's back its NATO allies' approval for the program of producing and deploying American binary munitions in Western Europe. The bulletin's report confirms the hypocrisy of official Washington which uses pronouncements on a "sincere strivings" toward disarmament to cover up its policy of building up its mass annihilation weapons armory.

U.S. Claims 'Crisis'

PM201456 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 May 86 Second Edition p 3

[A. Yevgenyev article under the rubric "The Facts Expose": "The 'Chemicalization' of Europe"]

[Text] The words "chemical weapons" are again appearing on the pages of the West European press. The point is that the question concerning the deployment of U.S. binary ammunition on the European Continent will be resolved in the last 10 days of May at a series of conferences of the North Atlantic bloc's leading organs.

It is well known that the U.S. Congress, appropriating funds for the production of this new-generation chemical weapon, demanded that the administration secure the allies' consent to its deployment on their soil. And the Pentagon's fixers went overboard to obtain it. The Seoul regime declared in April its readiness to accept binary ammunition. And now Washington has undertaken the conditioning of its NATO partners.

In an attempt to deceive public opinion in West European countries, people from the Pentagon promise that binary weapons will apparently be shipped there only in the event of a "crisis situation." And they did actually find some people who fell for this artless bait. Take just the FRG leaders for example. Playing the role of Pentagon propagandists, they are trying to convince their country's people that the Americans are even prepared to liquidate the enormous stockpiles of toxic substances already present on FRG territory, and that Washington would supposedly need separate permission from Bonn to deploy binary ammunition.

Such claims, however, are clearly aimed at simpletons. For a long time now the transatlantic strategists have been considering Europe as a potential location for the use of toxic substances. Britain's well-informed newspaper THE TIMES points out in this connection that "chemical weapons will, without any doubt, be used by the United States in a European rather than an intercontinental war." Furthermore, the Pentagon's plans to establish five new U.S. chemical weapons arsenals on West German territory are well known. A statement made by the "Green" party organization in Baden-Wuerttemberg to expose this project points out that the United States intends to deploy binary ammunition in the Karlsruhe and Hermersheim areas, starting in 1987.

Exercises to work out the use of chemical weapons under field conditions have been held over a long period of time both at American and at NATO testing grounds in Western Europe. Furthermore, the question of conducting combat operations with the use of chemical weapons was assigned a central position in numerous maneuvers by U.S. forces in Europe, like the "Reforger-15" (1983), for example. NATO has been in the process of organizationally shaping chemical services units and subunits since 1978. And the Pentagon long ago made its calculations regarding the quantitites of chemical ammunition required to conduct combat operations on the European Continent with the use of toxic substances.

Moreover, statements by U.S. General Rogers, NATO supreme allied commander in Europe, testify that his staff has already drawn up a detailed plan for the deployment of binary weapons. The danger contained in the Atlanticists' schemes is perfectly obvious. After all, the quantity of toxic substances already deployed in Western Europe today is capable of destroying the continent's population many times over.

The world public resolutely condemns the Pentagon's monstrous plans for the "chemicalization" of Western Europe, and emphasizes that these plans enhance the military danger and run counter to the peoples' desire to put an end to the race in all types of mass destruction weapons.

Our country has put forward a precise plan for the liquidation of this barbaric weapons even before the end of the century. Proposals in this connection are contained in the 15 January statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. On 22 April the USSR put forward proposals making it possible to eliminate the existing differences at the talks.

As for Washington, instead of seeking agreement on the question of banning chemical weapons, it is preparing to deploy binary chemical weapons in other continents, and primarily in Europe. The U.S. politicians are eager to ban chemical weapons only in words. As we can see, in reality they are ready to turn whole countries and continents into gas chambers.

West European Opposition Cited

LD211821 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 21 May 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Georgiy Zubkov]

[Text] A series of spring sessions of NATO's top military bodies began at NATO Headquarters near Brussels today. These conferences will go on for 2 days. What main questions do NATO generals and leading officials intend to examine? There are, perhaps, three such questions: The conventional arms buildup, the plans for production and deployment in Western Europe of new U.S. binary chemical weapons, and the examination of the so-called European SDI.

It is absolutely clear from the agenda for the currrent round of NATO conferences that Washington and its NATO allies persists in continuing their course aimed at military superiority, remaining deaf to the sensible, concrete, and peace-loving Soviet initiatives. After all, it was only a month ago that the Soviet leadership put forward a new initiative that pertains precisely to conventional arms and provides for a considerable reduction of all components of land forces and tactical air forces of the European states and also of the corresponding U.S. and Canadian forces deployed in Europe. The entire territory of Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals, can become the zone for this type of reduction.

The people of the West European countries are alarmed at NATO's plans to deploy the lastest generation of checmical weapons on the continent: binary warheads with paralyzing nerve gas.

Plans of this kind have already been approved at a recent special session of NATO Planning Group.

Disagreement with the new, dangerous designs has been voiced at the session itself as well as after it: official Netherlands, Danish, Norwegian, and Greek representatives spoke against these plans. Debates have just ended in the Danish parliament. A resolution has been passed there that calls on the government to announce the country's negative attitude toward the U.S. plans to modernize chemical weapons during the sessions of top NATO bodies that began in Brussels today. The parliament has also made it incumbent on the government to bring this position to the notice of the U.S. Congress.

During the debates, one of the MP's cited the following fact: The quantity of the allegedly obsolete poisonous substances brought from the United States and currently sited in Europe is enough to wipe out all mankind 5,000 times over.

At the present time the Pentagon already stores 1 in 10 of its chemical warheads in European depots. U.S. experts attempt to assert that binary weapons are safe during production, transportation, and storage and, they say, it is only when two parts are combined -- that is why these weapons are called binary -- that they are activated.

But what concern is it for the inhabitants of Europe where the Pentagon intends to manufacture these new, sinister weapons, or how they will be transported? They will be stored in Western Europe and the intention is to use them there.

It is no accident that the Pentagon strategists chart all their chemical attacks on the maps of Europe. Our country understands that the United States is clearly playing a dishonest game, reckoning on deflecting counterstrikes from its territory and allowing its allies' territory and population to fall prey to them. It is known that the USSR is in favor of the quickest possible and most complete liquidation of chemical weapons as well as of the industrial base needed to manufacture them. In this area, too, new Soviet proposals have recently been put forward.

As for the European defense initiative, it is being contemplated as a back-up for the star wars plans that are being pushed through, full steam ahead, in the United States.

West European countries approach this problem in various ways, both as far as the idea itself and its implementation are concerned. Here, for example is what the BULLETIN NOUVELLE ATLANTIQUE, close to NATO circles, imagines for this defense initiative. It said that what is proposed is to create arms designed to hit missiles from planes with the use of arms and hardware that are already being developed now within the framework of the star wars plans and, in particular, laser and electromagnetic arms. It is thought that the U.S. Patriot antiaircraft missile complex, which is already part of NATO armory, can form the basis of this program, naturally having undergone modernization.

NATO Military Planning Committee

LD221056 Moscow TASS in English 1005 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Brussels May 22 TASS -- The NATO Military Planning Committee opened a meeting at the North Atlantic bloc's headquarters today. The top issue on the agenda is a U.S. plan, being imposed on its allies, to produce binary weapons for subsequent deployment in Western Europe. Denmark, Norway, Greece and Holland object to the plan.

U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger held a series of bilateral talks, including with the defense ministers of countries opposed to the U.S. plan, after arriving here on the eve of the session. Local commentators believe that the prime aim of those contacts was to crush the allies' resistance to the Pentagon's efforts to put the arms race into still higher gear.

Other issues on the agenda include a program for boosting the arsenals of "conventional" arms and the "EuroSDI", a supplement to the U.S. "star wars" project.

NATO Military Committee

LD221402 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1549 GMT 21 May 86

[By TASS correspondent Albert Balebanov]

[Text] Brussels, 21 May (TASS) -- The NATO Military Committee, which today is holding a session at the level of chiefs of General Staffs of member-countries of the North Atlantic alliance, has spoken out for a further intensive buildup of the bloc's conventional weapons. General Cornelius de Jager, chairman of the committee, stated this in NATO headquarters.

Speaking at a press conference, the general reported that NATO's highest military body today recommended to ministers of defense of alliance countries that they support U.S. plans for the mass production of binary weapons intended for deployment [razmeshcheniye] in Western Europe. The committee adopted these recommendations under the pretext of... NATO "lagging behind" the Warsaw Pact in the area of chemical weapons. However, the general was not able to quote any facts or figures to corroborate his unsubstantiated assertions.

C. de Jager reported that the participants in the session apportioned significant attention to various aspects of the implementation of the U.S. "star wars" program and its West European supplement -- the so-called "European defense initiative." The general stated that both projects are "component parts of the Western defense strategy." The chairman of the NATO Military Committee once again resorted to the myth fabricated within the walls of NATO about the so-called "Soviet military threat," in order to justify NATO plans for further whipping up the arms race.

The statements made today at the NATO headquarters by its highest military leader show that the leaders of the bloc still apply the same old and unrealistic measures to the most important problems before mankind--the problems of war and peace--and that they still have not renounced the ideas of "deterrent," [ustrasheniya] "containment," [sderzhivaniya] and striving to attain military superiority over the Warsaw Pact.

FRG's Woerner Comments

LD222132 Moscow TASS in English 1644 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Brussels May 22 TASS -- The participants in the meeting of the NATO Military Planning Committee taking place here approved the U.S. plans to produce new binary chemical weapons intended to be stockpiled in Western Europe, West German Defense Minister Manfred Woerner announced here. This approval is one of the conditions set by U.S. Congress for the financing of the production of these deadly munitions. The defence minister admitted that though none of the participants had objected to the decision, delegates from a number of countries had reaffirmed their critical attitude to the American programme of the serial production of binary bombs and shells. Insiders report that the Dutch, Danish and Norwegian delegates said that the adoption of the American plan by the session did not mean that their countries supported it.

Meetings End

LD221541 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1212 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Brussels, 22 May (TASS) -- One-day sessions of the NATO Eurogroup defense ministers and the NATO Military Committee at the level of chiefs of staff of the NATO member-countries have been held here. Yielding to open pressure from Washington, the defense ministers of 12 West European countries delcared their intention to make a "European contribution" to making the alliance "as solid as possible," meaning, in particular, accumulation of weapons arsenals. The United States, Canada, France, and Iceland do not take part in the work of the Eurogroup. As General Cornelius de Jager, chairman of the NATO Military Committee, stated at the press conference, the committee recommended to defense ministers of the alliance countries that they support U.S. plans for mass production of binary missiles, intended for siting in Western Europe. The committee adopted these recommendations under the pretext of NATO "lagging behind" the Warsaw Pact in the field of chemical weapons. However, the general failed to cite any facts to substantiate his unfounded allegations.

As is known, the British Government has allready given its consent for siting the new U.S. chemical weapons on its territory to be kept in case of a "crisis situation." Observers note, however, that there is no consensus concerning these plans among the West European partners in the alliance. Denmark, Norway, Greece, and the Netherlands refuse to approve them. Considering the scale of the antiwar movement in Western Europe, participants in the Eurogroup session had to make general pronouncements favoring an improvement in East-West relations and continuation of arms control talks. But not a word was spoken about any concrete ways of achieving that end. Moreover, the decisions and recommendations adopted at the session of the Military Committee bear witness directly to the opposite -- the striving for expanding militarist preparations. In the words of Gen de Jager, the committee spoke in favor of a further intensive buildup of conventional weapons. Considerable attention was paid by the participants of the session to various aspects of implementation of the U.S. "star wars" program and its West European extension -- the so-called "European defense initiative" [Passage indistinct].

'Creeping Chemical Rearmament'

LD21850 Moscow TASS in English 1815 GMT 21 May 86

["Chemical Threat Must Be Removed" -- TASS item identifier]

[Text] Moscow May 21 TASS -- TASS Military Analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

Having come against serious opposition to its plans immediately to deploy new chemical weapons in the territories of U.S. allies, the U.S. Administration has decided to use the tactic of the "creeping chemical rearmament" of Western Europe.

White House envoys in Brussels have begun to assure their West European colleagues that the USA no longer insists on the deployment of new binary weapons in West Germany, Britain or other NATO countries. Everything the United States needs, the Washington officials say, is the NATO countries' agreement of principle to the shipping of such chemical agents to their territories "in a crisis situation." The United States needs this consent, according to them, to ensure progress at the talks on a total chemical weapons ban.

There can be no doubt that Washington will not stop halfway in the fulfilment of its program for turning Western Europe into a huge depot of nerve gas. Following the consent of the West European NATO members to the development of binary munitions, Washington will demand their consent to the deployment of new chemical weapons in their territories.

The persistence with which the U.S. Administration is pressing new binary munitions on Western Europe can be explained by the fact that the Pentagon thinks chemical weapons to fit ideally the American concept of waging war as far away as possible from the U.S. shores. The Pentagon strategists are nurturing the illusion that chemical warfare can be only in Europe or Asia or that there will be no retaliation against American territory if the USA unleashes a war of aggression with the use of chemical agents.

It is symptomatic that Washington has launched another campaign to promote a chemical arms buildup at a time when the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have put forward new, far-reaching initiatives aimed at the eventual exclusion of chemical agents from the life of mankind.

The Soviet Union's concrete and realistic proposals for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction by the end of this century have thrown Washington into confusion. The U.S. Administration is obviously seeking to bind its European allies and to secure their automatic support for any armed venture, global, regional, nuclear, chemical or conventional.

The eradication of chemical weapons is an absolutely essential factor of ensuring the security of all the countries and peoples of the world.

A total and universal ban on chemical weapons can become an important, truly historic step towards the normalization of international relations, a turning point from confrontation to cooperation among countries with different socio-economic systems.

Preconditions for solving this problem on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security have been created by the latest peace proposals of the USSR and other socialist countries. Now it is time for Washington to act.

NATO Council Meeting

LD292135 Moscow World Service in English 1710 GMT 29 May 86

[Viktor Ivanov commentary on the NATO Council's regular session, being held in Halifax, Canada]

[Text] There is the usual set of military issues and also the issue of what is termed international terrorism on the session's agenda. The general atmosphere at the session differs little from that of the previous meetings. As before, it is marked by Washington's desire to get its West European partners to join its plans. The American Administration seeks in particular to enlist their unconditional support for its military programs and it expects them to increase their own share in military preparations. In this context the Halifax meeting is nothing but a continuation of a series of NATO meetings held at various levels in the past few days.

The discussion last week of the production by the United States of most modern chemical weapons known as binary weapons was the touchstone that was expected to expose the measure of the allies' loyalty to what is known as the Atlantic solidarity partnership. Though the United States succeeded in winning the formal approval of its plans, it was evident that the allies were questioning more and more the sensibility of the decisions imposed on them by their senior partner. Six countries made their reservations in one form or another or voiced openly their disapproval of binary weapons.

The issue of chemical weapons is revealing because it illustrates the American Administration's general negative stand on the problem of arms limitation and control. Washington blocks the progress of talks concerning the prohibition of space weapons and production of medium-range nuclear and strategic systems. Moreover, it is preparing the ground for scrapping such existing agreements as SALT II and the ABM treaties.

The United States as it seems is not only stepping up its huge military program but is also seeking the opportunity to act freely as far as the unimpeded use of the arsenals built up by it is concerned. The bombardment by American planes of civilian installations in Libya under the pretext of combating international terrorism shows where this policy may lead to. As before, Washington is trying to justify this policy by the existence of a mythical Soviet threat, but it fails to explain why no response has been made so far to the comprehensive Soviet program aimed at eliminating nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction before this century is out. No word has been spoken about the total lack of peace initiatives on the part of the United States and the existence of numerous militaristic programs.

The criticism of this disparity in the policy of the two countries develops into active public opposition in the NATO countries. The public is getting increasingly apprehensive of the aggravation of the military threat. Sentiments of this kind not only take the form of massive manifestations but of the call on political leaders to take practical steps to remove the danger. Not to take these calls into account means to risk one's political career, especially in the countries where regular elections are in the offing.

So, one more participant is invisibly present at the Halifax meeting. This is the public opinion of the West European countries, the United States and Canada. It presents the partners in NATO with an alternative -- either to continue following in the wake of the confrontation policy pursued by Washington or to adopt a more realistic course.

'Deep Disagreements' Emerge

LD300711 Moscow TASS in English 0701 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, May 30 TASS -- TASS Special Correspondent Artyom Melikyan reports:

Deep disagreements have emerged at a special session of the NATO Council at a foreign minister level. It has been learnt here that counterpiece to the debates, held behind closed doors, turned out to be not only issues of the entire complex of East-West relations but also the differences which have become clearly pronounced in NATO lately.

They are related, above all, to the U.S. programme for the production of binary chemical munitions, a new generation of chemical weapons, and the so-called fight against terrorism. The positions of the United States and the rest of the NATO member countries were far apart on a number of problems pertaining, primarily, to strategic arms control.

It is indicated here that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz found himself in isolation when he encountered disagreement on the part of the United States' partners with the White House's decision to torpedo such an important for containing the nuclear arms race mechanism as the SALT-2 treaty. [sentence as received]

It is observed in informed circles in this connection that the situation where the U.S. side found itself in isolation is explained by the apprehension of U.S. partners that this step by Washington will create a highly alarming situation in the world, as Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek put it.

It has been learnt that Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, Denmark and other NATO countries also stated that they held a special position. It is noteworthy that disagreements on this issue appear to be so serious that they slipped beyond the bounds of closed meetings. For instance, Canadian Foreign Minister Charles Joseph Clark described Washington's plan with respect to the SALT-2 treaty as a development which provoked heightened concern.

It follows from the briefings held upon the completion of the May 29 closed meetings that the attempts to muster its partners' unreserved support for the programme to produce binary weapons and Washington's methods to "combat international terrorism" were not crowned with success.

In view of the NATO council session, a mass rally and a torch-carrying march were staged in Halifax to protest the "star wars" programme.

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CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

CHEMICAL WEAPONS DEPOT IN MARYLAND 'SERIOUS HAZARD'

LD091408 Moscow TASS in English 1905 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Washington, 8 May (TASS)--TASS correspondent Aleksandr Lyutyy reports:

The Maryland authorities now consider bringing a lawsuit against the Pentagon for glaring disregard of safety norms. The biggest depot of chemical weapons of the U.S. Army is situated in the Maryland State close to Aberdeen. Several months ago people of the city started pondering on the question of whether or not the contamination of fish in the picturesque Chesapeake Bay and toxic pollution of the soil near the bay could be traced to that arsenal. They invited representatives of the local Environmental Protection Agency. Their visit to the Army facility set the beginning to a large-scale investigation and caused a veritable scandal.

It was established that large stockpiles of Chemical weapons are kept at the depot which has been existing for 45 years now. And they are kept in such a state as to pose a serious hazard to the health of local people, to wild life and vegetation. It was established that large-scale poisoning of fish in the Chesapeake Bay is connected with the leakage of 800 liters of sulphuric acid from the depot. There were several explosions of chemical ammunition. Nerve gas leaked into the atmosphere in 1983. At least 40 times, personnel of the depot staged illegal burials of highly toxic chemicals. Officials of the local Environmental Protection Agency pointed out that such actions pose long-term potential hazard to the health of over 40 thousand people residing in the area of the chemical weapons depot.

According to the WASHINGTON POST, huge stockpiles of chemical weapons are kept at 12 arsenals, similar to the one in Aberdeen. They are situated on the territory of nine states. Despite serious hazards presented by those seats of contamination to the population of nearby districts, the administration intends to replenish them with ever new types of ammunition in the framework of its program of the "United States chemical rearming."

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CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

BRIEFS

MEXICO ON U.S. EXPERIMENTS--Mexico City, 25 May (TASS)--The United States, developing new and new types of chemical and bacteriological weapons, uses Latin Americans as human guinea-pigs, stated Manuel Cervin Massieu, a prominent Mexican biologist, professor at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. Washington strategists, testing chemical subatances and bacteria in Latin America, he said in an interview with EXCELSIOR newspaper, check on Latin American peoples the results of barbarous research which is being conducted in the United States. Mexico, the scientist emphasized, has come to feel the influence of the criminal experiments. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 0617 GMT 25 May 86 LD] /9738

BACTERIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONFERENCE--Geneva, 2 May (TASS)--The second conference to review the operation of the convention on the prohibition of the development, production, and stockpiling of bacteriological (biological) and toxic weapons and their destruction will be held in Geneva on September 8-26 this year. This decision was taken by the committee in charge of preparations for the conference. As Soviet representatives emphasized, the convention made it possible for the first time in history to remove an entire category of mass annihilation weapons from the arsenals of states. The Soviet Union attaches great significance to that important multilateral agreement and proposes a complex of specific measures designed to eliminate nuclear and chemical weapons, prevent the militarization of outer space, and limit the race in conventional arms. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1832 GMT 2 May 86 LD] /9738

CSO: 5200/1390

EUROPEAN CONFERENCES

SOVIET JOURNAL URGES NATO TO ACCEPT WARSAW PACT MBFR PROPOSALS

AU291211 Moscow MEZDHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN in Russian No 5, May 1986 (Signed to Press 22 Apr 86) pp 118-123

[Article by K. Borisov: "For Progress at the Talks in Vienna"]

[Text] The 27th CPSU Congress particularly stressed that the struggle against the nuclear peril, the arms race, and for the preservation of universal peace in the future will be a main direction of the party's activities in the world arena.

Having thoroughly considered the prevailing situation, the CPSU advanced an integral program for the total elimination of weapons of mass destruction by the end of this century -- a program that is historic in its scale and significance. This program points out a reliable, direct, and short path to removing the nuclear threat and freeing the world from nuclear weapons. In proposing to remove weapons of mass destruction -- nuclear and chemical -- from states' arsenals and not to permit the appearance of space weapons, the Soviet Union believes that along with this process measures must be implemented to limit and reduce conventional armaments and armed forces.

The 15 January 1986 statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee sets the goal of setting in motion the entire existing system of talks and ensuring the highest efficiency in the disarmament mechanism. The achievement of an accord at the Vienna talks could lay the basis for movement toward reducing conventional armaments and armed forces. The talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe have continued in Vienna for 13 years now and the 39th round begins on 15 May.

As is known, 19 states are taking part in the talks: the USSR, the GDR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Romania from the Warsaw Pact and the United States, Britain, the FRG, Canada, Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxembourg, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Denmark, and Norway from NATO. The Vienna talks did not begin from scratch. The subject of the talks was defined at the preparatory consultations preceding them: the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments and the measures connected with them in central Europe (these measures began to be called "associated"). The boundaries of the region for reductions, which comprise the territories of the GDR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, as well as the FRG, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg, were clearly delineated. It was decided that the troops and armaments of these countries and also of other states having armed forces in central Europe -- the USSR, the United States, Britain, and Canada -- would be subject to reduction. All these 11 states

have the right to take part in adopting decisions and are therefore called direct participants in the talks. As distinguished from them, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Denmark, and Norway, which are not reducing their troops, have a "special status" at the talks, in other words, a consultative one. The principle of not damaging the security of any of the sides was fixed as a basic principle of future accords. During the talks themselves a mutual understanding was reached concerning their end goal -- the establishment in central Europe of equal collective levels of the numerical strength of Warsaw Pact and NATO armed forces of 900,000 men each, including 700,000 men in the ground forces.

Thus, from the very beginning of the Vienna talks their mechanism was adjusted and basic parameters were clearly defined. All this presented the opportunity, given political will and a constructive approach by both sides, to relatively quickly achieve concrete results and begin a practical reduction in the level of military confrontation in the middle of the European Continent, where large masses of troops and armaments are concentrated. Unfortunately, this did not happen. Through the fault of the Western countries the Vienna talks have been and still are at a prolonged standstill.

The socialist countries have proceeded and proceed from the premise that an approximate balance in the correlation of military forces between NATO and the Warsaw Pact has developed and exists in the middle of Europe. To maintain the prevailing balance of forces of the opposing armed groups at a lower level of troops and armaments, at the very beginning of the talks they proposed implementation of an equal percentage reduction by each direct participant of their armed forces and armaments in the region (by about 17 percent). The Warsaw Pact countries have subsequently time and again updated their proposals and have introduced elements in them that take into account certain precepts of the NATO countries' position.

The NATO countries have adhered to and continue to adhere to a different approach. They state that the main goal of the talks must be the removal of supposedly existing "disproportions" in ground forces and the basic types of conventional armaments in the region of the reductions favoring the Warsaw Pact. On this basis, the NATO countries demand "asymmetrical," that is, significantly greater, troop reductions for socialist states than for NATO.

Assertions of the socialist countries' superiority in conventional weapons do not correspond to reality. The NATO bloc exceeds the Warsaw Pact in the total numerical strength of personnel, in the number of combat-ready divisions, and in antitank weapons; the sides have about equal quantities of artillery and armored equipment. NATO has superiority in fighter-bombers, for which the Warsaw Pact compensates by a slightly greater number of air defense fighter-interceptors. On the whole there is an approximate balance in conventional weapons. Western sources also confirm this. For instance, "The Military Balance 1984-1985," the annual publication of the London Institute for Strategic Studies, states: "As before, our conclusion is that the general balance in conventional armaments and armed forces is such that it makes general military aggression an extremely risky enterprise." (Footnote 1) ("The Military Balance 1984-1985," London, 1984, p 151)

For a number of years a "numerical discussion" has been under way, imposed by the Western countries, on the numerical strength of the sides' armed forces in the reduction area, during which twice, in 1976 and 1980, data on the sides' troops was exchanged. As of 1 January 1980, the NATO states had 991,000 men in central Europe,

including French troops on FRG territory, among the 792,500 in the ground forces. The total numerical strength of the armed forces of the Warsaw Pact countries as of 1 August 1980 (after the unilateral withdrawal by the USSR of 20,000 troops from GDR territory) was 979,000 men, among them 796,700 in the ground forces.

Progress in Vienna is also hampered by the unwillingness of NATO countries to extend reduction and limitation to armaments, which also contradicts the mandate of the talks, whose subject was defined at one time as a "mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments."

Yet another obstacle on the path to a mutually acceptable accord in Vienna is the NATO countries' artificially inflated demands, which are known to be unacceptable to Warsaw Pact countries, for verification [kontrol] of the fulfillment of a proposed agreement, which in no way correspond to the scope and nature of steps toward a real reduction in the level of military confrontation.

With the aim of breaking the deadlock of the talks, the socialist countries in February 1983 proposed a new approach for achieving an agreement, according to which each side would reduce as many troops as required to achieve agreed equal collective levels of the numerical strength of armed forces -- 900,000 men for each alliance, including 700,000 in ground forces for each alliance. This approach would mean an end to the fruitless "numerical discussion" and would permit a focus of efforts on the main thing -- achieving an end result of reduction.

However, this approach was also rejected at the time by the Western participants, who in their reply proposals in April 1984 essentially repeated all their former unconstructive stances without any substantial changes.

Seeking to achieve practical progress at the talks, the socialist countries on 14 February 1985 introduced a proposal regarding an initial reduction by the Soviet Union and the United States of troops and armaments in central Europe and no subsequent increase in the level of the sides' armed forces and armaments in this region.

This proposal concretely envisaged a reduction within 1 year of USSR and U.S. troops together with their authorized armaments and combat equipment by 20,000 and 13,000 men, respectively with no subsequent increase or, as they say, a freeze for 2 years on the levels of troops and armaments in central Europe for all member-states of the agreement both on a collective and national basis. The proposal also contained necessary verification [kontrol] measures for the fulfillment by the sides of the agreement obligations that were adequate for these obligations.

In advancing their 14 February proposal, the Warsaw Pact countries proceeded from the premise that in the deadlock conditions that the Vienna talks were in -- and through no fault of their own -- achieving and implementing at least a limited, interim agreement in Vienna would be an expedient and useful first practical step on the path to reducing the level of military confrontation in the middle of Europe. The logic of such a step is that a reduction in the level of military confrontation cannot be begun without first of all stopping the buildup of armed forces and armaments.

Only after 10 months, in December 1985, did the NATO countries advance ideas in response. Their representatives also favored an initial reduction in Soviet and American troops, but in smaller quantities and without armaments. They also stated their agreement to begin a freeze on the level of troops, although also without extending this obligation to armaments.

One can positively assess the very fact of a response by the Western participants to the proposal by the socialist countries and consider that this exchange of signals and development of political dialogue correspond to the accords of the Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva. One can also positively assess the fact that the West has taken a step toward the February proposal by the socialist countries, at least a step toward the outline of the initial agreement proposed by them and a framework for further talks. Moreover, it should be noted that if the NATO countries have now after all decided to abandon "numerical discussion," they have thereby made a concession to common sense, not to the socialist countries.

But together with certain constructive precepts, the Western proposal contains a number of dubious elements that do not meet the requirements of reality and the principle of no damage to the security of any of the sides. The main shortcoming of the NATO countries' proposal is that it nullfies efforts for a real reduction in the level of military confrontation in the middle of Europe, replacing them with deliberately overstated verification [kontrol] measures. This circumstance must give rise to the question: With what aim is this being done? After all, verification [kontrol] must be commensurate with the agreement obligations and facilitate their fulfillment by the sides, and not be a source of distrust and suspicion.

An important impetus for invigorating all disarmament talks was the proposal to free the world of nuclear weapons and other aspects of arms limitation and disarmament contained in the 15 January 1986 statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

One circumstance of a fundamental nature should be immediately pointed out. Assertions that implementation of a program of nuclear disarmament would lead to an intensification of the threat to use conventional weapons, where socialist countries supposedly possess superiority, are the pseudoarguments of those who in practice do not want an improvement in the situation and are looking for excuses to hamper the cause of disarmament. The Soviet Union has been and remains a firm supporter of maintaining balance at the lowest level possible, including the sphere of conventional armaments and armed forces. Therefore, the Soviet proposals of 15 January envisage that together with measures to eiminate nuclear weapons, steps must be taken to reduce conventional armed forces.

The Vienna forum could lay the basis for the process of reducing conventional armaments and troops and make it a constant element of European security. A first accord in Vienna would also beneficially affect other efforts to reduce the level of military confrontation in Europe and would promote an improvement in the international climate on a wider scale. The Soviet Union and its allies do not want to lose time for nothing at talks that have already been at a standstill for an intolerably long time. And if there is an opportunity to accelerate the talks and genuinely push them forward, the socialist countries for their part will do everything necessary to achieve a positive result.

Guided by these thoughts, the GDR, the Polish People's Republic, the USSR, and the CSSR have instructed their delegates in Vienna to jointly advance a detailed draft "agreement on initial reduction by the Soviet Union and the United States of ground forces and armaments with no subsequent increase in the levels of the armed forces and armaments by the sides and related measures in central Europe." This draft was introduced in Vienna on 20 February 1985 on behalf of the socialist countries that are direct participants in the talks by ambassador (A. Wilandt), head of the GDR delegation.

The basic provisions of the draft agreement are as follows:

-- Over a period of 1 year from the moment the agreement goes into effect, the USSR and the United States will withdraw from central Europe to the boundaries of their national territories 11,500 and 6,500 ground forces servicemen, respectively together with their authorized armaments and combat equipment. An exchange of lists of the troop units being reduced and withdrawn will be carried out beforehand, before the signing of the agreement.

-- All 11 direct participants in the talks will pledge after the completion of the reduction of Soviet and American troops not to increase for 3 years the personnel and armaments of their ground and air forces in central Europe.

-- With the beginning of the operation of the nonincrease obligation, an exchange will be carried out of annually updated numerical data on the armed forces of NATO and Warsaw Pact countries remaining in the area of reduction.

-- For the period of the reduction of USSR and U.S. troops and the subsequent operation of the obligation not to increase (freeze), three to four constantly operating control posts will be established on the Western and Eastern sides of the reduction area. All ground forces formations, units, and subunits of the participants in the agreement will arrive or depart through these posts. The posts will be manned by representatives of both sides.

-- Preliminary mutual notification is envisaged of such military activities by the sides as troop movements, a callup of reservists, or military exercises with the participation of 20,000 men or more.

-- Together with the use of national technical means of verification [kontrol] so as to ensure fulfillment of the agreement, the possibility of conducting on-site inspections [proverka] upon a valid request is not excluded.

-- The creation of a consultative commission for an operational examination of questions connected with the fulfillment of the agreement is also envisaged.

Preserving all the fundamental precepts of the socialist countries' proposal of 14 February 1985, the new draft in many respects develops, defines them more precisely, and supplements them. It takes into account all the elements of the Western participants' position that seem acceptable and proposes compromise solutions for a number of important aspects on which there is no agreement between the sides.

Thus, important steps have been taken by socialist countries toward valid and sensible verification [kontrol] of the fulfillment of the agreement. M. S. Gorbachev stressed in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th party congress: "I would like to focus attention on the problems of verification [kontrol], to which we attach particular significance. We have frequently declared: The Soviet Union is open to verification [kontrol]. We have an interest in it, no less than others. Comprehensive and very rigorous inspection [proverka] is, perhaps, one of the most important elements in the process of disarmament. The essence of the matter, as we see it, is as follows: Disarmament without vertification [kontrol] is impossible, but verification [kontrol] without disarmament is also meaningless."

The new draft agreement in many respects takes into account the previous ideas of the socialist countries; however, it is under no circumstances a question of it simply repeating former precepts. A number of them acquire a new quality in light of the nature of a partial agreement, and others represent quite a new positional element. During the formulation of verification [kontrol] measures the socialist countries have this time also proceeded from the goals of reliably ensuring the fulfillment by the sides of obligations for an initial reduction and no subsequent increase in armed forces and armaments in central Europe adapted to the substance and nature of the proposed agreement. At the same time, other realities of the contemporary situation in which one now has to live and work and which still remains complicated and tense were soberly taken into account.

All this reaffirms the socialist countries' desire to seek sensible mutually acceptable solutions on verification [kontrol]. However, this should not be a one-way street. The West must find its position — whether it will continue to occupy a hopeless position on the principle of "all or nothing" in questions of verification [kontrol], or whether it intends to turn to realistic solutions.

An important impetus for solving the problems of improving the situation on the European Continent on the whole was the new Soviet initiative advanced by M.S. Gorbachev on 18 April this year at the 11th SED Congress, which proposed an agreement on significantly reducing all components of ground forces and the tactical aviation of European states, as well as the corresponding U.S. and Canadian forces deployed in Europe. The troop formations and units being reduced would be subject to disbandment and their armaments — to either being destroyed or stored on national territories. According to the Soviet side, the territory of the whole of Europe — from the Atlantic to the Urals — must become the geographic zone of reduction. Operational-tactical nuclear armaments would be reduced at the same time as conventional armaments.

The new Soviet proposal poses the question of proper and reliable verification [kontrol] at all phases of this process. The USSR considers that this can be a question both of national technical means and international monitoring [proverka] forums, including on-site inspections [inspektsiya] if necessary.

It is obvious that the Soviet initiative of 18 April this year is a subject for serious talks. Its implementation would allow not only the untying of the knot that for more than 12 years has been tightened at the talks in Vienna, but would also lead to a strengthening of confidence between European states.

At the Vienna talks it is necessary to solve very complicated problems before a positive result is achieved. Nonetheless, for the first time in many years there is a real chance to overcome the lingering standstill in Vienna. Both the 20 February 1986 draft agreement introduced by the socialist countries and the new Soviet initiative of 18 April this year create a practical basis for joint efforts by the sides to draw up a mutually acceptable accord. This will of course be difficult work. However, the complexities can undoubtedly be overcome given appropriate political will. The Warsaw Pact member-states are again demonstrating this will in practice. Their interest in success is obvious. Their proposals to the Western partners to shift to concrete work in formulating a text of an agreement is evidence of this.

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EUROPEAN CONFERENCES

TASS REPORTS ON CDE CONFERENCE HELD IN STOCKHOLM

Military Exercises Discussed

LD101056 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] Stockholm May 9 TASS -- The discussion of the proposals of socialist as well as neutral and non-aligned countries on measures to limit military exercises is going on at the Stockholm Conference on Security- and Confidence-Building and on Disarmament in Europe. In recent years military exercises have assumed such a scope that it becomes difficult to distinguish them from preparation for the deployment of armed forces for combat operations.

Today the Soviet delegation in its speech at the conference pointed out the importance of taking restrictive measures to overcome distrust and to lower military confrontation in Europe, and urged the participants in the conference to begin to coordinate the text of an appropriate agreement. It was shown that the USA and its closest NATO allies were in every way evading a solution to this urgent problem and seeking to retain freedom of action for a step-up of military preparations.

Grivenskiy Attacks West

LD231100 Moscow TASS in English 1035 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Stockholm May 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Vukolov reports:

The regular session of the Conference on Security- and Confidence-Building Measures, and on Disarmament in Europe ended here today. Summing up its results, Oleg Grivenskiy, head of the Soviet delegation, noted that from the point of view of urgent tasks of the European policy it is important to complete the first stage of this conference with positive results. The opportunities for this do exist and they are perfectly real given mutual aspiration to reach an accord. This, however, is what the United States and some Western countries lack.

Under all kind of far-fetched pretexts they impede the work to hammer out mutually acceptable accords, draw back from the quest for ways to come to grips with unresolved problems, which are proposed by socialist, neutral and non-aligned countries.

The success or lack of success at the Stockholm Conference is in the present-day situation a touchstone of the readiness to work not in words but in deed for scaling down the military threat on our continent. This is necessary both by its own self and for a new all-European meeting in Vienna, so as it could make a decision to pass over to the second stage of the conference devoted to disarmament in Europe. Thus, a new impetus would be given to developing the Helsinki process in all of its aspects.

The next session of the conference will begin its work on June 10.

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NUCLEAR TESTING AND FREE ZONE PROPOSALS

MOSCOW HITS REAGAN RESPONSE TO GORBACHEV ON TEST BAN

LD251822 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 25 May 86

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Excerpt] When Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, in his speech on Soviet television, stated that the USSR Government had made the decision to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests, in the White House they pretended that they had not even noticed this important step. Clearly, the U.S. Administration could not find a convincing argument to justify its reluctance to stop the nuclear arms race.

This week, the United States actually replied to the latest Soviet initiative on extending the term of the moratorium on nuclear explosions, and it did so in an habitual and challenging form -- it detonated another nuclear device.

From time to time officials in Washington recall that there exists agreement on holding another Soviet-U.S. summit meeting this year, and that the whole matter allegedly rests with Moscow. But these are mere words. In acutal fact the U.S. Administration's behavior is such as if it set itself the task of torpedoing Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to the United States. For example, one cannot assess in any other way the shameful anti-Soviet campaign started in the United States in conjuction with the accident at the Chernobyl AES.

Previously the United States had tried to camouflage its refusal to stop nuclear explosions with various excuses. They referred to difficulties with verification: When we stated that any verification, including on-site inspection, would not be any problem for us, they started talking about their lagging behind; they said the USSR had already carried out a series of explosions and does not usually start new tests before spring. Well, spring, one can say, has passed, and we have not tested nuclear weapons for 9 and 1/2 months, and we are prepared to wait even until 6 August. You would think that even far-fetched arguments had been removed, but figures in the U.S. Administration are saying more and more often that to stop tests would have a negative effect on the reliability of U.S. nuclear arsenals. What, then, is the value of the White House's assurances of its desire to strive for a radical reduction in, or even the total elimination of, these arsenals?

Some U.S. observers believed that in the existing situation -- when the accident at Chernobyl demonstrated yet again what an abyss will open in the event of nuclear war, when scores of public, including U.S. organizations urged the U.S. Administration to follow the example of the Soviet Union and refrain, at least for some time, from

scheduled explosions -- Washington again displayed contempt of U.S. public opinion and of the viewpoint of the international community. The U.S. Administration ignored the constructive approach of the USSR on the matter.

Mikhail Gorbachev confirmed his consent in principle to holding a new Soviet-U.S. summit meeting. He noted at the same time that two simple things are required for such a meeting -- the readiness to make it yield tangible, practical results at least on one or two issues of continuing concern for the world, and a fitting political atmosphere.

However, it does not look as though the White House is striving to improve the climate in Soviet-U.S. relations. As to the search for agreements on disarmament problems, Washington is so acting in a diametrically opposite direction and is threatening to cancel the agreements siged earlier.

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NUCLEAR TESTING AND FREE ZONE PROPOSALS

MOSCOW HITS WEINBERGER COMMENT ON NORDIC NFZ

LD282029 Moscow International Service in Finnish 1430 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger claimed at a press conference in Copenhagen that the establishment of a nuclear weapons-free zone in northern Europe is the same as calling on the Soviet Union to start an attack. It is extremely dangerous to turn one's back on danger, he said. Our observer writes in this connection:

All kinds of stories about the Soviet threat are as old as the world itself. But regarding the real danger, there we absolutely agree with the secretary of defense. One must not turn one's back on danger. But it is necessary to estimate in the right way what is really threatening, what is danger. The majority of the people on the earth realize that nations are threatened with a nuclear disaster, and therefore we hae to welcome every step taken in the direction of eliminating nuclear weapons.

The establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the north of Europe is one such step, and therefore abandoning the idea of forming such a zone would be tantamount to turning one's back on danger. This is what Secretary of Defense Weinberger calls for. But no wonder, for the advocates of nuclear weapons have really turned their backs on the threat. They are moving backward and enjoying the past, in other words, how before the beginning of the nuclear era all problems could be solved with armed force. Thinking of the past, they see wars that did not threaten the United States in any way. The towns of other countries, not of the United States, were in ruins.

But when we turn forward, the picture changes. Nuclear weapons can lead to a destabilization of an already explosive situation. What will happen if a nuclear war breaks out, even in a situation favorable to the United States, when it is the first to direct a nuclear strike against the Soviet Union, asks American scientist Isaac Asimov, who continues: What will be the consequences of the explosions of hundreds of nuclear bombs? Will not the strike that destroys the Soviet Union destroy all of Western Europe after a few days and then gradually the rest of the world?

To avoid the disaster, decisive action is needed to eliminate the military nuclear threat. The Soviet Union has presented a concrete program for the elimination of nuclear weapons. It supports the establishment of nuclear-free zones, also in the northern Europe. As we know, the idea of establishing a nuclear-free zone is gaining extensive support there. Therefore, the secretary of defense is again trying to direct public opinion elsewhere and to force upon it the idea of a fabricated threat and not of the real danger. He is trying to make public opinion turn its back on the most important issue of our time, the problem of nuclear disarmament.

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NUCLEAR TESTING AND FREE ZONE PROPOSALS

SOVIET LATE MAY COMMENTS ON LATEST U.S. TEST

U.S. 'Contempt' For World Cited

LD222322 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 22 May 86

[Report by Political Observer Valentin Zorin on the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] World public opinion has reacted with indignation to the report of a new test explosion at the U.S. nuclear site in Nevada. We go now to Political Observer for Soviet television Valentin Zorin:

Hello, comrades. The world waited with particularly alert attention the reaction of offical Washington to the important new step taken by the Soviet Union in extending its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August. Having for the first time actually encountered the terrible power of nuclear energy out of control, millions of people, wherever they live, have become very clearly aware of the monstrous threat lurking in the nuclear arsenals of the modern world.

They have formed a high opinion of the wise and truly humane position of the Soviet Union. For a week after the speech in which Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev announced the extension of the Soviet moratorium, the leaders of the Washington administration seemed incapable of opening their mouths; they relegated the task of expressing a negative attitude toward our country's move to officials of third-rate importance. Well, it is not difficult to guess the reasons for this unwanted taciturnity on the part of Washington's high-ranking politicans: They quite simply have no arguments to justify to public opinion in the United States and around the world their obstinate unwillingness to seize the opportunity they have been given of taking a real step towards stopping the nuclear arms race.

And now, instead of a constructive answer to the peace-loving Soviet initiative, the latest in the series of nuclear explosions -- the 11th since we introduced our moratorium -- has rent the air at the testing site in Nevada. In this way, Washington is demonstrating its open contempt for the world community, its refusal to make a sober appraisal of the realties of today's world and its inability to think on the level of those harsh realities and in accordance with their demands. Nor can one fail to mention that the continuing nuclear tests in Nevada demonstrate the malicious intent and cynicism of the organizers of the anti-Soviet pandemonium over the accident at Chernobyl. It is not human safety that motivates the Washington politicans, but the unworthy desire to score points in a dirty political game.

But those who think they can go on acting in defiance of the laws of morality and common sense are mistaken. Washington is going to have to pay a large political price for its attempts to carry on without taking this into account. Even those leaders of the West European countires who are accustomed to following in the wake of their senior partner across the Atlantic have now been forced to dissociate themselves from the test in one way or another.

An indication of the growing mood within the United States is the bill, prepared by a group of influential congressmen, to stop financing the production of nuclear warheads as long as the Soviet Union refrains from carrying out nuclear explosions. Realities exist which Washington, sooner or later, will have to reckon with. The last word has not yet been spoken.

U.S. Ignores Public Demand

LD221400 Moscow TASS in English 1218 GMT 22 May 86

[TASS commentator Ivan Ablamov]

[Text] Moscow May 22 TASS -- The world has been outraged by yet another nuclear blast at the testing range in Nevada. Ostentatiously ignoring public demands in its own country and abroad for an end to the nuclear arms race which poses a deadly threat to mankind, Washington presses on with its nuclear testing program.

The world can see clearly once again that the USSR and the United States have opposite approaches to international affairs. Proceeding from the conviction that the nuclear age requires a new political mentality and a new policy, the Soviet Union maintains consistent efforts to bring about disarmament and prevent a nuclear catastrophe.

The urgent and important nature of Soviet peace initiatives for completely eliminating nuclear weapons, stopping nuclear blasts and creating a comprehensive system of international security has become especially clear these days.

The Soviet Government has decided to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing till August 6, the 41st anniversary of the Hiroshima tragedy. The USSR has called on the United States to hold an urgent summit meeting to come to terms on the prohibition of nuclear tests.

This noble step by the USSR has been hailed as an act of statesmanship dictated by concern for bridling the nuclear arms race.

Nagasaki Mayor Hitoshi Motoshima has said the Soviet proposal for holding the Soviet-U.S. summit to ban nuclear testing meets the aspirations of the Japanese.

Public opinion polls in the United States have showed that most Americans support an end to such tests as a concrete and easy first step to completely halting the nuclear arms buildup.

But in Washington they have disregarded these worldwide calls for weighing with utmost responsibility the measure of danger threatening mankind and for demonstrating in practice their concern for human life and public health, and continued following a different path, the path of escalating military preparations. Nuclear armories and nuclear testing, however, harbor the threat of a catastrophe.

This explains the angry worldwide reaction to the latest nuclear test in the United States.

Huge stockpiles of nuclear arms have been accumulated in the world and many Americans are asking whether nuclear weapons are justified at all, U.S. physiologist George Wald, a Noble Prize holder, has said.

He added that the administration was responding to the right step by Moscow with a series of nuclear tests needed to further the "star wars" program.

The hard truth of the times, the Indian newspaper daily has said, is that socialism upholds peace, while imperialism wants the arms race.

Washington's provocative actions corroborate this obvious truth.

Test 'Political Hypocrisy'

LD222022 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 22 May 86

[Igor Charikov commentary]

[Text] The latest U.S. nuclear explosion conducted at the test site in Nevada aroused worldwide protests. Authorities in the Japanese towns of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which has suffered from U.S. atomic bombings, categorically demanded that the White House immediately end all nuclear tests. Here is our commentator Igor Charikov:

The U.S. capital is trying to create the impression that nothing extraordinary has happened. A representative of the Department of Energy, which officially conducts the tests in Nevada, informed journalists only about the technical facts of the explosion that took place. True, he revealed that the explosion was connected with weapons, but refused to answer the questions that followed immediately. Even without further explanation, yesterday's explosion in Nevada confirms that the U.S. Administration, ignoring world and domestic public opinion, continues to implement a program for the creation of new types of nuclear weapons aimed at inflicting a first strike from space.

According to the appraisal of specialists, this program will this year alone require 15 nuclear explosions. Each explosion of this kind, including those conducted underground, is not without ecological consequences. Improving and accumulating nuclear arsenals, the U.S. ruling circles at the same time make speeches about the need to get rid of nuclear weapons. These very words were uttered as recently as yesterday by the U.S. President himself, but against the background of Washington's practical deeds these speeches are seen to be false and thoroughly hypocritical, for every day and every hour the material preparations for a nuclear war are being conducted in the United States. This political hypocrisy and double standard is eloquently described in an announcement by the well-known hardline supporter, Richard Perle, who said that he sees no practical nor acceptable alternative to nuclear tests, if nuclear weapons are the cornerstone of the West's defense strategy.

However, practically the whole world, with the exception of Perle and a few others like him, sees an alternative in the Soviet initiative for a moratorium on all types of nuclear tests. Pronouncements in support of the idea of a Soviet moratorium and appeals to the U.S. Administration to subscribe to it can be heard every day. As is known, the Soviet Union has adopted a decision to extend the moratorium announced earlier to 6 August. This was adopted despite Washington's stubborn refusal to speak seriously about nuclear disarmament. The latest test in Nevada is yet another politically irresponsible challenge to common sense, an act contradicting the new political thinking required in our time.

'Contradicts' Geneva Talks

LD221922 Moscow TASS in English 1758 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 22 May (TASS)--TASS political news analyst Igor Orlov writes:

Another nuclear explosion in Nevada conducted by the U.S. shows clearly the essence of the U.S. Administration's policy. The explosion was staged against the clearly expressed will of the world public which urges the United States to join in the Soviet Union's unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing, the moratorium that has been extended. Trying to camouflage the aggressive essence and militarist trend of its policy Washington resorts to various propaganda tricks, tries to place the blame at the wrong door. This was seen again during a meeting of State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb with reporters.

Answering the question as to why the United States does not take steps to reciprocate the well-known Soviet initiatives advanced since the Geneva meeting, Kalb alleged that there are on the negotiating table U.S. proposals awaiting the USSR's answer.

Kalb noted that the United States, allegedly, advanced considerations about making progress in the questions of nuclear tests. But he "forgot" to specify that instead of a complete ban on such tests Washington would like to achieve the opposite results--to conduct talks on their regulations, that is on giving sanction to nuclear tests. Instead of discussing the question of a ban on space strike arms, the United States is prepared to propose a "dialogue" on interrelationship between strategic and defensive arms, that is to carry the matters to the working out of "rules" for conducting the race of such armaments.

The attitude to the Soviet initiative for the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe is indicative of Washington's obstructionist stand. The United States is now cynically boycotting solutions of that question, making references to the stands of Britain and France, demanding the weakening of the Soviet Union's defences on the eastern borders, while preserving the U.S. Armed Forces in that region. And this happens not only at the Geneva talks but also at other talks. Each time the Soviet Union takes a step to meet the U.S. stand, the U.S. steps back.

The juggling of words cannot conceal the obvious fact that Washington's actions after the Geneva meeting contradict the arrangements reached, attest to the strengthening of an anti-Geneva syndrom there and this is confirmed anew by the latest nuclear explosion in Nevada.

'Shaken World Opinion'

PM231332 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 May 86 First Edition p 5

[Nikolay Bragin "Observer's Opinion" under general heading: "Contraty to Common Sense"]

[Text] The latest nuclear explosion at the Nevada test site has literally shaken world public opinion by its defiant and provocative nature. It was, after all, conducted only a week after mankind's hopes that a real step would at long last be taken toward curbing the nuclear arms race had been rekindled.

Millions of people all over the world enthusiastically welcomed the Soviet Union's decision to extend the unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August and the new call to the United States to follow this example. Many politicians and public figures described the USSR's initiative as an act of the greatest state wisdom meeting the interests of peoples all over the world.

The demand that the United States back the moratorium idea and halt its nuclear explosions started to intensify everywhere. People with different political beliefs in the United States itself persistently called on the incumbent White House administration to heed the voice of common sense, abandon its wild ambitions to attain nuclear superiority, face up to the truth, the realistically assess the catastrophic consequences which may result from a continuation of the nuclear arms race.

But Washington again remained deaf to the demands of the U.S. and international public. The latest explosion in Nevada--the 11th since the Soviet Union announced its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests in 1985--cannot be perceived as anything but a crude challenge to mankind's most cherished aspirations.

So far, the arguments of common sense have had no effect on it. Nor have the lessons of Chernobyl. This does not mean, however, that it can conduct itself in the world according to the principle "I do as I like." The peoples and the peace-loving states will no doubt draw their conclusions from the U.S. militarists' defiant behavior and will redouble their efforts in the struggle for peace.

It is obvious that the reliance on the continuation of the nuclear arms race on Earth and the deployment of strike weapons in space remains unchanged in the policy of the incumbent U.S. Administration.

Disregarding the opinion of the peoples, who demand that an end be put to nuclear insanity, Washington is driving itself into still greater moral and political isolation in the international arena. The aggressive nature of its foreign policy course is obvious. And this truth cannot be covered up by any American big talk about "commitment to the cause of peace." The people judge policies and politicians by their deeds and nct by their words.

'Open Challenge' to World

LD250215 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 24 May 86

["Moscow Viewpoint" by Valentin Zorin--read by announcer]

[Text] The nuclear explosion at the Nevada proving ground on Wednesday was not only identified by seismological stations in various parts of the world but also sparked off a stormy political reaction because it runs counter to the interests and aspirations of millions of people around the world. The latest explosion in Nevada is seen by the world community as an open challenge.

These days the world is living under the impression of the tragedy at Chernobyl, where peopla had to face such a formidable power as nuclear energy that has got out of control. Washington tried to use the Chernobyl accident to score political points and to fan anti-Soviet hysteria. However, the masterminds of the propaganda campaign have failed to hide the main thing. Millions of people around the world saw clearly the menace hanging over humanity--the menace created by the continuing race in nuclear arms. The relatively small readioactive cloud that appeared over Chernobyl paled into insignificance when compared with what can follow the explosion of even a small part of the nuclear charges stockpiled in the world.

The Soviet Union, in a bid to promote disarmament, took still another step that has met with approval from everybody in his right mind. Although the Soviet Union has for more than 9 months complied with a self-imposed ban on nuclear explosions, the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, has announced that the unilateral Soviet moratorium has been prolonged to the 7th of August. That was not an easy decision to make, especially at a time when the Pentagon went ahead with its tests. The Soviet Union nevertheless did take that step, thereby supporting with practical steps its goodwill and readiness to take real actions to rid humanity of the threat of nuclear self-annihilation.

However, Washington has again refused to accept the hand extended to it. The order to go ahead with nuclear tests in Nevada is evidence that the United States leaders put the profits of a handful of military-industrial companies before the vital interests of people, including the Americans themselves.

Incidentally, underground nuclear explosions in Nevada are far from being as safe as the Americans, Canadians and people in other countries are told. During the underground explosion on the 10th of April, a number of important systems failed and as a result radioactive gas, Xenon, reached the surface. And still later, when radioactive tunnels were ventilated on the 22d and 27th of April, which was announced by the Energy Department, products of radioactive decay produced by the explosion escaped into the atmosphere. The Canadian TRIBUNE believes that an increased radiation level in Canada could be partly caused by that incident in Nevada. Experts have been claiming that radioactive gases were discharged into the atmosphere after other nuclear explosions in Nevada also. The continuation of nuclear explosions in Nevada at a time when the Soviet Union does not conduct such tests shows the actual worth of peace pronouncements by the United States leaders.

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NUCLEAR TESTING AND FREE ZONE PROPOSALS

TASS ASSAILS U.S. NUCLEAR TESTS, DEPLOYMENTS IN MICRONESIA

LD292105 Moscow TASS in English 1245 GMT 29 May 86

["USA Gives Legitimacy to Annexation of Micronesia" -- TASS identifer]

[Text] Moscow May 29 TASS -- TASS News Analyst Vasily Kharkov writes:

The resolution imposed on the U.N. Trusteeship Council by the USA with British and French support on Wednesday is designed to give legitimacy to the U.S. annexation of the Pacific islands known as Micronesia. The nearly 40 years of the American government of those islands, stretching in a huge semicircle over almost 4,000 kilometers, have seen Washington's diktat and imposition on the trust territory of political, economic and social conditions which have amounted to the actual seizure of the islands by the United States. When the USA was granted by the U.N. Security Council its mandate to govern the territory in 1947, it pledged to guide itself by the interests of the local population, to facilitate progress and to help the trust territory to advance towards self-government and independence.

That pledge was grossly violated and the U.S. exploited its status of trustee first and foremost to promote its own military and strategic goals.

The Pentagon continues to view Micronesia as a strategically sensitive chain of American military bases, bringing many parts of Asia and the Pacific within the range of U.S. nuclear missiles. That is why the Pacific islands have become a militarist staging area, which the U.S. uses every now and then to flex its muscles in that vast region.

The USA has a major base on Atoll Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands, for instance, and tests on it intercontinential ballistic missiles and components of the "star wars" weapons. More than one billion dollars has been invested in the base and it keeps growing.

Two more atolls in the northern group of the Marshall Islands, Bikini and Enivetok, were used over the years to test American atomic and hydrogen bombs. They remain contaminated with radiation. Bikini is still uninhabitable and its people reamin exiles. The 18 million dollars a year that Washington pays in compensation to the population of the islands who sustained damage from nuclear explosions amounts to a pitiful attempt to avoid responsibility for the criminal action.

Disregarding the will of the population of Belau, who unanimously called for the non-nuclear status of that small island territory, the USA is planning to establish there a base for nuclear-armed Trident submarines. The USA has virtually bought its "military presence" by promising a dollar sop to Belau.

Now that the south Pacific has already been proclaimed a non-nuclear zone by the states in the region and that the anti-war and anti-nuke movement is growing all over Asia and the Pacific, Washington's annexationist ambitions towards Micronesia and its use as a staging area by the Pentagon constitute a challenge to the will of the peoples. The USA has grossly violated the U.N. Charter and the declaration on the granting of independence to the colonial countries and peoples and abused its mandate of trustee for neocolonialist purposes. Any revision of the status of Micronesia is the exclusive prerogative of the Security Council. That is why the attempts of the USA and its Western allies to manipulate the Trusteeship Council for the purpose are groundless. The future of the Pacific Islands must not be subordinated to the Pentagon's nuclear missiles ambitions.

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NUCLEAR TESTING AND FREE ZONE PROPOSALS

SOVIET PAPER REPORTED TO CITE SAKHAROV ON TEST BAN

DW300835 Hamburg BILD in German 30 May 86 p 4

["Exclusive" BILD report by Peter Bartels: "Sakharov on Chernobyl: It Was Terrible"]

[Text] "It was terrible what happened (in Chernobyl), a tragedy like that of Challenger..."

This was said by Andrey Sakharov, the famous Soviet nuclear physicist, by phone to his wife Yelena Bonner in the United States. The Soviets recorded the talk with microphones and hidden cameras.

The new video cassette BILD received yesterday from Moscow, was recorded 14 days ago in Gorki, Sakharov's place of exile. The Kremlin had him interviewed for the first time by a (Soviet) repoter -- on a side street in Gorki.

Reporter: "I am from GORKOVSKIY RABOCHIY (GORKI WORKER)."

Sakharov unbelieving: "The GORKOVSKIY RABOCHIY?"

Reporter; "Excuse me please, but this is the first time I have had an opportunity to speak to Academician Sakharov. Can you satisfy my professional curiosity? Everybody speaks of Chernobyl at the moment. An accident..."

Sakharov: "A terrible accident."

Reporter: "The papers write about a radiation of 10-15 milliroentgen per hour. Is that much?"

Sakharov: "No, it is only little. You see, those who died received a much higher dose. They got several hundred roentgen."

Reporter: "I also deal with ecological issues for our newspaper. I believe that the accident will have some effect on nature."

Sakharov: "It could have some effects..."

Here the video cassette sound suddenly becomes indistinct. It becomes intelligible again when Sakharov says: "However, you know, it was not nature that tried to put the fire out, they were firefighters."

Reporter: "Yes, I understand whay you mean. Will we have to deal with consequences?

Sakharov: "No, nothing serious. Not for the people outside the power plant zone."

Reporter: "Nevertheless, we must continue our fight to achieve renunciation of nuclear weapons."

Sakharov: "Total renunciation. Naturally, yes, naturally. It is a terrible threat to mankind."

Reporter: "We have announced a moratorium (voluntary nuclear test halt) until 6 August. However, the Americans have not responded."

Sakharov: "They believe that without nuclear weapons they will be unable to resist the Soviets. As long as tensions exist, we will be unable to achieve agreement."

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RELATED ISSUES

MOSCOW CONTRASTS SOVIET, U.S. APPROACHES TO VERIFICATION

LD251934 Moscow World Service in English 1510 GMT 25 May 86

[Commentary by TASS Observer Vladimir Bogachev]

[Text] Ever since disarmament talks began 40 years ago there has been an ongoing dispute over the problem of verification. There could have been no dispute had it not been constantly fueled by the opponents of disarmament. Whenever the United States and other Western nations accepted certain arms limitation measures, verification problems were resolved. But whenever the international situation became aggravated through the fault of imperialist circles, and prospects for agreement on arms limitation declined, there immediately appeared so-called verification problems.

After it assumed power in 1980, the Reagan administration in effect adopted a policy of renouncing disarmament agreements reached with the Soviet Union on an equal footing. In its report for the fiscal year 1981, the Pentagon pointed out that the United States needed only such agreements with the Soviet Union that would direct military competition to areas where the United States will get a clear advantage. That is the basis of a policy aimed at securing military superiority over the Soviet Union. All that stood in the way of that policy was rejected and alleged verification problems were used as an excuse.

The United States, for instance, used this tactic to stall progress toward an agreement on a comprehensive nuclear test ban. Back in 1958, a conference of experts of eight nations, including the USSR and the United States, came to the conclusion that a total nuclear test ban lends itself to reliable verification with the help of national means. The United States said that national means were not enough. At the trilateral talks between the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain, held between 1977 and 1980 with a view to reaching agreement on banning nuclear tests, the United States kept on toughening its stand on verification. Having dragged its feet at the talks, the United States went on to break them off.

In order to remove all the so-called difficulties in resolving that problem the Soviet Union said that it is prepared to accept the most stringent verification measures, including on-site inspection. The Soviet Union accepted the move of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Tanzania and Sweden whereby they offered their help in verifying a bilateral Soviet-American nuclear test ban. After that the United States had to make a clean breast of it and acknowledge that the sticking point is not at all verification.

The United States needs more nuclear tests to upgrade its nuclear weapons and develop attack space weapons. The American Administration proposed to the Soviet Union that they should exchange observers of nuclear tests and compare notes about how best to upgrade nuclear weapons. And perhaps one day, Washington said, the two sides will reach an agreement on halting nuclear tests. Accepting that proposal would be tantamount to substituting legalizing nuclear weapons upgrading for verifying a nuclear test ban.

The Soviet stand boils down to the following: Disarmament is possible without verification. But verification without disarmament makes no sense. In advancing its proposals for arms limitation and disarmament the Soviet Union has always closely linked verification with arms limitation and scrapping process. The Soviet Union extended that approach to verifying the implementation of the program for the total abolition of nuclear, chemical and other weapons of mass extermination by the year 2000, which it advanced on 15 January.

The process of eliminating weapons could be verified by both national means and on-site inspection. The Soviet Union is prepared to reach agreement on any supplementary verification measures. The Soviet Union is interested in reliable verification of compliance with disarmament agreements no less than the United States. This country favors effective verification in all avenues of arms control to ensure that agreements reached are complied with. The Soviet Union is prepared to limit or ban any type of weapons on a reciprocal basis, given reliable verification. This is stated in the updated version of the program of the Soviet Communist Party adopted at the recent 27th congress.

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RELATED ISSUES

MOSCOW TALK SHOW ON TEST BAN, SALT II, EUREKA

LD240921 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 23 May 86

["International Situation: Questions and Answers" program presented by Vladimir Pasko, commentator for All-Union Radio, with Vitaliy Yakovlevich Chukseyev, chief editor of foreign information for TASS; Anatoliy Doronin, correspondent for East Africa; Vlacheslav Vladimirovich Sychev, general secretary of CEMA; Sergey Pravdin, correspondent in Ulaanbaatar; Vyacheslav Lavrentyev, not further identified; Pavel Kasparov, correspondent in Paris]

[Excerpts]

[Pasko] Hello, comrades! We are continuing to receive letters connected with the accident at the Chernobyl AES. Many are asking if they can help in some way to eliminate the consequences of the accident. I cannot reply individually to all letters, but I can cover the main point: For those who want to send donations to the victims aid fund, I can tell you that checks should be made out to the Moscow account of the Executive Committee for the Association of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies.

Its number is 700-624. Or they can be sent directly to Kiev, Account No 904.

The accident has deeply concerned people, and, let me add, not only Soviet people. This is shown by the letters being received by the radio from foreign listeners expressing sincere sympathy with us. No less emotion has been aroused by the dirty attempts of the West to make use of what has happened for its own political ends. What sort of politicians are they, writes, for instance, Comrade Sazonov of Engels, who can only see in the accident an excuse to evade our proposals on nuclear disarmament, when, in fact it is a graphic illustration of how urgently necessary they are! This was in effect confirmed by the U.S. specialists who are in our country at this time. The same feelings were expressed in a letter from Artem Ivanovich Boedyeko of Gorkiy, who asks if there are forces in the United States capable of standing against the course of the present administration, and in a letter from Comrade Malenchikov of Borovichi. Borovichi asks what measures are being taken by the Soviet Union to maintain a military balance in a situation in which the United States does not want to agree on the total destruction of nuclear weapons. Petr Grigoryevich Zhukovskiy, from Vladivostok, asks: Why does the United States refuse to take into account the opinions of the governments and public of other countries?

Taking part in our program today is Vitaliy Yakovlevich Chukseyev, chief editor of foreign information for TASS. I will let him speak.

[Chukseyev] You must have already heard, comrades, that on 21 May the United States conducted another nuclear weapons test. Again the earth trembled at the Nevada test site where the U.S. military is busy developing ever more up-to-date and efficient means of mass annihilation. Since the Soviet Union announced its moratorium on nuclear testing on 6 August last year, the Pentagon has carried out 11 such tests. The other day I happened to see a set of photographs of the test site in Nevada, which was distributed by ASSOCIATED PRESS. At first glance it looks like the lifeless surface of the Moon: Huge craters are scattered over the desert landscape shown in the photographs. These wounds, inflicted in Nevada by underground nuclear explosions, serve as a graphic illustration of the policy of the arms race being pursued by the United States. In this connection one cannot help but ask if Washington understands the dangerous brink the world has come to. Does the Reagan administration realize in full measure its responsibility for the fate of millions of people? Unfortunately, one can only give a negative reply to this question. Furthermore, it is glaringly apparent what a challenging position the White House is taking in giving the order to press the button at the Nevada test site only a week after the Soviet Union's latest decision to unilaterally prolong its moratorium until 6 August this year and its appeal to the United States to follow this example. This is by no means a new position.

The well-known NEW YORK TIMES observer Tom Wicker recently wrote an article containing a short chronological account of this matter.

He recalls the following, which I quote: The Soviet leader proposed the proclamation of a moratorium on 6 August 1985, the 40th anniversary of the day on which the United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, and the Soviet Union observed this moratorium. President Reagan rejected such a moratorium. At the beginning of 1986 Moscow extended the moratorium until 31 March. Reagan rejected it again.

The Soviet leader proposed once again extending the period of validity of the moratorium, and the U.S. President rejected this proposal too. None of the reasons cited in this connection by the U.S. leader sounds convincing.

The creation of new and more lethal nuclear weapons, according to the observer, contradicts Reagan's own dictums that nuclear war cannot be won and that it should never be waged. And indeed, in its negative reaction to our country's appeal, as before, the administration has not taken the trouble to search for serious agruments. Attempts were also made, in the face of obvious facts, to present the Soviet moratorium as a propaganda maneuver.

Here is how Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian prime minister, spoke out in connection with such absurd accusations: A few claim that the Soviet Union is doing all this for the sake of propaganda. Yes, we would also like to receive such propaganda from other countries. Unfortunately, so far we are not seeing a positive reaction to our proposal on the part of other states possessing nuclear weapons. However, regarding the essence of the extension of the period of the Soviet Union's renunciation of nuclear tests, the Indian leader stated:

We wholeheartedly welcome this decision by the Soviet Union. This step demonstrates that the USSR's attitude toward nuclear disarmament is a very serious one. The next meeting of six countries from five continents on problems of nuclear disarmament will take place on 6 August, and its participants, Gandhi said, hope that such constructive proposals will come form other nuclear powers too.

These assessments reflect the sentiments of the international community and U.S. public that our country's decision evoked. In many reactions it was noted that the U.S. refusal to join the moratorium on nuclear tests is a deviation from the joint statement at the Geneva summit meeting last autumn in which the leaders of the two great powers stress the importance of preventing any war between them -- nuclear or conventional.

[Pasko] The attempts by the Washington administration to undermine the Soviet-U.S. Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty signed in June 1979, serve as another link in the same dangerous policy aimed at achieving military superiority. A number of listeners have asked us to go into greater detail as to what is now taking place in the United States concerning this treaty.

[Chukseyev] The fact of the matter is that at the end of May sea trials will start of the eighth U.S. nuclear submarine of the Trident class, which carries 24 missiles. This means that the United States will exceed the ceiling of 1,200 multiple-warhead nuclear missiles laid down by this treaty. The start of the sea trials of the new submarine will require the White House to make a decision on the dismantling of two existing submariens of the Poseidon class if the United States wants to remain within the framework of the Soviet-U.S. agreement. Such a step is being earnestly resisted by the hawks among the U.S. leadership who wish to use the situation that has come about to move ahead militarily. It is reported that Reagan will make his final decision taking into account the results of consultations with the West European allies.

In this connection, even British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe, who usually supports the U.S. foreign policy line, stated: Nonobservance of the agreement would provoke a considerably greater loss of trust in the U.S. Administration than the raid on Libya. And Bettino Craxi, the chairman of the Italian Council of Ministers, as the ITALIA agency reports, expressed in a letter to Reagan his anxiety in connection with the U.S. position and called on him to keep the treaty in force. Craxi pointed to the risk to which the world will be subjected if what remains of the spirit of the Geneva meeting is somehow or other undermined by a new, more hardline U.S. attitude.

From sources in the administration, information is emerging that Reagan is inclining toward extending the period of validity of the SALT II treaty, something internal political considerations are also compelling him into doing. Recently, more than half of the members of Congress sent him a letter in which they spoke out against undermining the limitations on offensive arms. They stressed that this would, in the first place, damage the security of the United States.

However, taking into account the zigzag nature and unpredictability of the foreign policy actions of the White House, it is better to wait with the forecasts. Even if the period of the treaty's validity is extended at the end of May, the treaty will, as before, remain under threat. As the informed paper THE WASHINGTON POST reported in this connection: The limits set by this agreement could be exceeded this summer when the U.S. Air Force will arm a sufficient number of bombers with cruise missiles. Such are a few events connected with the questions being asked by the listeners of this broadcast.

In the conduct of the U.S. Administration, there are many such things that are incompatible with political morals, worsen the international atmosphere, intensify tension in Soviet-U.S. relations, and testify to the striving to continue the line toward military superiority and continuing in the arms race.

[Pasko] Our mailbag contains a large number of letters asking about progress in the fulfillment of the decisions of the econimic summit conference of the CEMA member-countries and the extraordinary 41st CEMA session.

What has been and is being done in this area? How are things going? These questions have been sent in by, among others, Tolchev, Abdikeyev, and Aldzhigidov from Moscow; Ulitovskiy from Kishinev; and a number of other comrades. Here to answer your questions is Vyacheslav Vladmimirovich Sychev, CEMA secretary.

[Sychev] Almost 2 years have passed since the June 1984 summit-level economic conference in Moscow of the CEMA member-countries. It was a conference that defined the strategy of cooperation of the CEMA member-countries for a long period of time. It is natural that since the economic conference the activities of all bodies of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, and CEMA's entire work, have been geared to the fulfillment of the conference's decisions. First and foremost, of course, it must be said that in fulfillment of the decisions of the economic conference, an integrated program for the CEMA member-countries' scientific and technical progress up to the year 2000 was drawn up within a fairly tight deadline and adopted by the 41st extraordinary CEMA session in December of last year. It is a most important program document of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

The integrated program is aimed at tackling the main task set by the 27th CPSU Congress and the congresses of the other fraternal parties -- the task of accelerating the social and economic development of our countries. The 6 months since the adoption of the integrated program for scientific and technical progress has been full of strenuous work to implement the important tasks formulated in the program.

[Pasko] Comrade Zhilkin from the village of Sredniy Raskhovets in Kursk Oblast asks how the comprehensive program for scientific-technical progress of the CEMA member-countries differs from the West European Eureka in that the first is a military program whose results will show up in the civilian sphere, while the second is a civilian one whose results will show up in the military sphere.

The French Federation of Scientific-Technical Workers has stated that the implementation of this project means Europe's entry into the process of the militarization of space.

The comprehensive program for the scientific-technical progress of the CEMA member-countries up to the year 2000 has nothing in common with Eureka.

In adopting it the socialist countries especially noted that they are pursuing humane, peace-loving aims. They resolutely advocate the prevention of the arms race in space and its cessation on earth as well as disarmament and the widest international cooperation for the sake of an exclusively peaceful use of the revolutionary advances in science, equipment, and technology.

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RELATED ISSUES

MOSCOW 'OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE': TEST BAN, CW ARMS, CDE

LD251817 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 15 May 86

["International Observers Roundtable" program, with Rudolf Georgiyevich Kolchanov, deputy editor in chief of TRUD' Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Lebedev, deputy editor in chief of MIROVAYA EKONOMIKA I MEZHOUNARODNYE OTHNOSHENIYA; and Aleksandr Vladimirovich Zholkver, Central Television and All-Union Radio Political Observer]

[Excerpts] [Zholkver] Hello, comrades. At the center of attention of international observers last week was the visit to our country by the head of the Spanish Government. As you know, at its regular meeting the CPSU Central Committee Politburo noted that the constructive nature of the talks, meaning the talks between the Soviet leadership and the Spanish Prime Minister Gonzalez, provide the opportunity for the continued broadening of mutual understanding and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Spain in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and the strengthening of peace, trust and security in Europe and beyond.

I think that overall the Soviet-Spanish talks in Moscow went beyond the framework of just bilateral relations. Indeed, during the Soviet-Spanish talks, and particularly during Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's meeting with Felipe Gonzalez, note was made of one of the most important features of the world today: the rapid growth of the mutual links and mutual dependence between the countries of our planet. There are a whole number of vitally important questions that are posed for all countries by our nuclear and space age. Chief among them is the ending of the arms race and elimination of the threat of nuclear war. What is needed to solve these problems is new thinking and new approaches in world politics. Our country vividly demonstrates both. We propose embarking on the steps that are easiest to take — the liquidation of medium-range missiles in Europe and the ending of nuclear tests -- but what at the same time do we see in the West?

[Lebedev] Yes, there is now a colossal difference in this approach to the world situation, and there are in general fundamental differences in the degree of responsibility for what is happening.

As far as our country is concerned -- and you have already mentioned this, Aleksandr Vladimirovich, but I will simply recall -- there has been a very broad response and positive discussion throughout the world on our new pledge, which was adopted unilaterally, for a moratorium on nuclear weapons tests which the Soviet Union is unilaterally extending until 6 August -- in other words, the anniversary of the day that the Americans subjected Hiroshima to nuclear bombing.

Of course our country is right to expect at least some sort of good-will gesture from the other side. So far the reply is unambiguous: In Nevada there has been another nuclear weapon test designed, by all appearances, for the star wars program. Since we unilaterally announced the moratorium last year, 11 explosions have been carried out in Nevada. Currently the United States and its allies are trying to conceal this stance of theirs by making unseemly use of speculation about the tragedy that happened at the Chernobyl AES. The speculative nature of this stance becomes particularly striking when at the same time moralizing phrases are pronounced to the effect that Washington is concerned for the safety of its own citizens, the citizens of other countries, and so on.

However, this tragedy has led many seriously minded politicians to recognize one very important truth of our age -- namely the need for new political thinking and the new approaches that our leader is calling for. That understanding was shown in particular in something that was said by Egon Bahr, one of the leaders of the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] in the FRG. He said: The conflagration in Chernobyl showed vividly what many people did not want to see -- that Europe has a home, and its inhabitant share both its security and its dangers. That very important conclusion is, of course, significant and symptomatic, but at the same time, unfortunately, far from everyone thinks in the same way as the SPD leader.

But what about the nuclear tests in Nevada? Is that not a threat to other peoples? And what about the preparations for star wars? Is that not a threat to other peoples? And is not the NATO decision on chemical weapons a threat to all peoples? -- in particular to the European peoples, because it was especially about the manufacture of binary weapons designed to be deployed in Western Europe. On 1 October the conveyor belt of chemical death will be started up in the United States, and...

[Lebedev, interrupting] Incidentally, Rudolf Georgiyevich, excuse me, but I would like to ask you a question. Can one really seriously believe the statements resounding across the ocean, in the United States, that for 17 years that conveyor belt has not produced anything, that no chemical weapons have been produced at all, that the production of allegedly...

[Kolchanov, interuppting] Of course a very great deal of them have been produced, and this is shown, among other things, by the numerous leaks of chemical substances, both in the United States and in Europe itself. Now a new program is being put forward, one that will cost many billions of dollars and will bear a correspondingly great danger.

[Zholkver] Yes, there are the old chemical weapons, so to speak, and the new ones. I have read in the West German press a number of reports that the U.S. chemical weapon depots in the FRG now contain enough chemical charges to annihilate the entire population of Europe. It is interesting how the NATO leadership and the Pentagon are now playing on the mood of the Europeans who are demanding the liquidation of chemical weapons. They are promising the Europeans that they will remove these old weapons that have gone rusty in a number of cases, thus leading to leaks, and that the new chemical weapons will be brought into Western Europe from the United States only in a crisis.

[Kolchanov] But who, Aleksandr Vladimirovich -- and a question for you, too [referring to Lebedev] -- who determines this crisis?

[Zholkver] And who creates it? The analogy is quite obvious, and people in Western Europe itself have started speaking about it. As everyone knows, the raids by the U.S. Air Force on Libya were carried out from NATO bases in Britain. The U.S. aircraft carriers from which the raids on Libya were carried out used NATO ports in Italy as a base. In this case the Americans acted without asking the agreement of their NATO allies, and now very many people are emphasizing that the Americans themselves will create a fresh crisis, and on this basis bring new, additional chemical weapons into Western Europe. This greatly worries many people there.

[Kolchanov] A crisis can be created, or it can simply be proclaimed, and the chemical weapons can be brought in on this basis. But incidentally, what exactly is the attitude of the European states toward checmical weapons? It is not the same everywhere, is it?

[Zholkver] Indeed, an unusual situation has developed. At the latest NATO sessions almost half of the U.S. allies, or more accurately, 6 out of 13, spoke out against the plans for chemical modernization. It is true that after that, Perle, assistant to the U.S. defense secretary, bluntly said: We do not intend to grant to any country the right to veto U.S. programs for binary weapons.

[Lebedev] Yes, at the moment discussion of banning chemical weapons and the attitudes toward this problem once again demonstrate the same two approaches to key problems in world politics.

Moreover, what is important in my view is that the division does not simply set apart, so to speak, world socialism, the socialist community, and NATO countries. No, this division goes deeper than a differentiation. We see that a realistic approach, a responsible approach, is also being demonstrated by a number of political forces in the West. In particular, the recent meeting in Prague of representatives of the CPCZ, of the GDR's SED and the FRG's SPD, also became evidence of this. There was discussion at this meeting of a very interesting joint initiative of these political forces to create a zone in Europe free of chemical weapons. The SPD, as we all know, is one of the most influential political forces in Western Europe.

As far as the Soviet Union and its allies are concerned, then, our position is clear. Recently at the Geneva disarmament conference Soviet representatives again put forward constructive proposals that could lead to a very rapid conclusion of a convention on banning chemical weapons and liquidating their stocks; monitoring measures do not create any kind of difficulty here -- despite what the Americans try to affirm -- because we are ready to accept very effective measures of monitoring and inspection, including on-site inspection.

[Kolchanov] In my view this is another fact that proves that Europe can and should do a great deal. It should, because it ought to remember its history. It is there that both World Wars I and II began. It can do a great deal -- this is also proved by its historical experience. It suffices to remember the Helsinki accords, the Final Act, and subsequent events. Political contacts between European states have become more intensive. Scientific, technological, and economic ties have become even wider and deeper, and cultural and sports ties. Europe has become closer. Europe has become nearer. Europe can do a great deal.

[Zholkver] Yes. This very fact is confirmed by the example of one of the latest sessions of the West European Parliament in Strasbourg. For the very first time the question of all-European cooperation in the sphere of security was considered there. The West European Parliament came out for holding consultations with the Soviet Union on this question and came out in favor of considering, in this West European community, the proposal by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on banning chemical weapons.

[Kolchanov] Of course there are many paths toward strengthening European peace and security, and in my view one of the important ones is the successful completion of talks in Vienna and Stockholm. I will touch on the Vienna talks for a moment. I have had many opportunities to be in the Vienna Hofburg Palace, and at various times to be an eyewitness at these talks. You know that they have already started calling these sections or sessions of these talks "rounds", hinting both at the hardening...

[Zholkver, interrupting] You mean the talks on reducing armed forces and weapons in central Europe?

[Kolchanov] Yes, quite right, Aleksandr Vladimirovich. And you know, nonetheless, despite the tough position of the West and the constant resistance of socialist countries, the Soviet Union is constantly looking for ways to overcome these obstacles in order to reach a positive result. I will recall the socialist countries' draft that we introduced on 20 February. This is a draft agreement on the initial reduction of ground troops and weapons by the Soviet Union and the United States, with a subsequent non-increase of the levels of armed forces and weapons by the sides, and related measures in central Europe.

Insofar as Western countries are not ready for a major reduction in ground troops, we propose that the troops of the USSR and the United States be reduced by 11,500 and 6,500 people respectively; moreover, what is very important, not by pulling out individual soldiers or officers from the various subunits or auxiliary services, but by cutting whole military units, along with their weapons and combat equipment. After the completion of this action, all the participants in the agreement should take on the obligation not to increase during the next 3 or 4 years the levels of armed forces and weapons in central Europe. It is a concrete and realistic step that would make it possible to shift matters from a standstill.

[Zholkver] Of course such reductions would be very important from the point of view of creating that trust in Europe that is so essential and that is being discussed primarily at another important all-European meeting -- the Stockholm conference. Last week the latest session of that conference ended. As yet there are not any major positive results, although here too, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries put forward concrete proposals both on concluding a treaty on the nonuse of force and on measures to strengthen mutual military trust. But under various kinds of pretexts, far-fetched pretexts, the West is holding up the working out of mutually acceptable accords, although the success of Stockholm would be a touchstone for the readiness, not in words but in deeds, to strive for a reduction of the danger of war on our continent. This is doubly important since, as you know, Rudolf Georgiyevich, other talks are due in Vienna this autumn, along with the talks on reducing conventional weapons; this is to be a new all-European meeting, after Helsinki.

[Kolchanov] Yes, by 19 September participants in the Stockholm conference should complete their work on the final document. Following this, evolving out of the Stockholm conference, the conference in Vienna should take place.

[Zholkver] Questions will also be discussed there about disarmament in Europe, since at the moment in Stockholm, the discussion is mainly about measures of trust.

[Kolchanov] Aleksandr Vladimirovich, the Soviet Union and the socialist countries have a concrete program of peace for Europe. The USSR is proposing that agreement be reached on a significant reduction of all components of ground troops and tactical aviation of the European states and also corresponding forces of the United States and Canada that are deployed in Europe. Moreover, the military formations and units being reduced would be subject to disbandment while their weapons would be destroyed or stored on national territories. The geographic zone of reduction should obviously become the territory of the whole of Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals. At the same time as conventional weapons, operational-tactical nuclear weapons would also be reduced. This is a businesslike, concrete, and constructive approach to solving European problems.

[Zholkver] Across the ocean attitudes toward the development of events in Europe vary. In this respect an article by Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state and a well-known U.S. politician, published recently in the British OBSERVER newspaper, is very interesting. He admits pretty frankly here that in the United States they are worried by the almost unanimous nonapproval -- in Western Europe, including even Britain -- of U.S. policy, in particular its latest Libyan aspect. He notes that Thatcher was almost isolated in Britain. And Kissinger writes about a new source of tension in NATO, noting, it is true, that these conflicts between the United States and Western Europe have their roots in events of at least 30 years ago. What are we talking about here? Kissinger recalls that NATO was formed in a period when the United States had superiority, first and foremost in nuclear weapons, and when it persistently intimidated West Europeans with the Soviet threat.

Well, times are changing now. Fear of a Soviet invasion has diminished somewhat, Kissinger admits; approximate parity with the Soviet Union has replaced the U.S. nuclear supremacy; and now, he complains, Europe believes it has the right to dissociate itself from U.S. actions. And he comes to the following conclusion: In dissociating itself now from the United States, Europe is thereby challenging the concept of U.S. global interests.

[Kolchanov] I do not think it will be at all difficult to predict how the United States will behave in this situation. It will try even more vigorous arm-twisting tactics than before.

[Zholkver] How diverse and full of anxieties and problems is our modern world, then! The main thing, however, is the fact that mankind is confronted by a harsh choice. What is involved is the preservation of life itself on earth.

In these conditions, the Soviet Union is struggling for the sole sensible historic prospect, rejecting war as a means of resolving ideological and political disputes and putting forward a specific program for all mankind of strengthening peace, banning nuclear weapons and creating an all-embracing system of collective security.

Thank you, comrades, for taking part in this conversation.

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RELATED ISSUES

TASS BLAMES U.S. FOR FRENCH REFUSAL TO HOST UN MEETING

LD292153 Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] New York, May 29 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Baybakov reports:

The permanent mission of France at the United Nations organization has informed the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar of the refusal of the French Government to host in Paris this year an international conference on the interconnection of disarmament and development.

On the decision of the 40th session of the U.N. General Assembly, the conference in which all the major military powers were to take part was to be held in the French capital from July 15 to August 2. France explained its refusal by the fact that "the stands of the participating countries continue to be apart."

As is known, the main reason for it is the stand of the United States which has been boycotting from the very beginning preparations for the important forum in Paris, making it clear that the U.S.A. opposes any actions of the international community that run counter to U.S. aggressive militaristic preparations and plans of stepping up the nuclear arms race.

The French Government suggests that the international conference on the interconnection of disarmament and development be postponed till 1987. However, the work of the preparatory commission of the conference showed that most U.N. member countries insisted on the holding of the conference at a fixed time.

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RELATED ISSUES

TASS: CONCLUSIONS OF PENTAGON NUCLEAR WINTER REPORT 'PECULIAR'

LD150926 Moscow TASS in English 0750 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Washington May 15 TASS — TASS correspondent Nikolay Orekhov reports:

After lengthy delays the Pentagon has at long last sent to Congress a report on the so-called nuclear winter, which was requested from it back last year.

The problem of "nuclear winter" -- a complex of thermonuclear war's catastrophic consequences for the climate of the entire globe of ours -- has been in the focus of attention of many U.S. scientists for several years now. Their studies show that smoke and dust lofted into the atmosphere by explosions of nuclear warheads can block out the sun's light, triggering a steep decline in the temperatures on the entire earth surface and the death of all life forms. The theory of the "nuclear winter" has become one of the arguments of the U.S. peace campaigners in favour of freezing and eventually eliminating nuclear arsenals stockpiles on the globe, and scaling down perilous tensions in inter-state relations.

The Pentagon experts, who were forced to attend the problem of "nuclear winter" on Congress' demand, have primarily expressed a multitude of reservations concerning this theory but, nevertheless, have not dared to declare it erroneous. Moreover, half of the Pentagon report is devoted to the "political consequences" of this theory where, for that matter, the authors of the study directly proceed from the assumption that the danger of a "nuclear winter" is quite real.

The conclusions drawn by the authors of the report are, however, rather peculiar: Instead of calling for progress in the field of nuclear disarmament, they suggest ... going on with building up U.S. "deterrance forces" under the programme for "modernizing" the Armed Forces, set in motion by President Reagan. They also advocate continued work to develop the "star wars" weapons. The report refers to the Geneva talks but in so doing it repeats old, threadbare proposals of the U.S. side, designed to secure by the United States unilateral advantages in the field of strategic armaments.

It is not fortuitous that many congressmen, on whose demand the Pentagon report was compiled, remained unsatisfied with this "study". One of the lawmakers told AP that it was incomplete and did not provide an answer to many questions raised.

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RELATED ISSUES

AFP: USSR AGREES TO 'TIGHTER SUPERVISION' BY IAEA

AU231202 Paris AFP in English 1201 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 23 May (AFP)--The Soviet Union has told visiting Spanish officials that it is ready to allow to tighter supervision of its nuclear power plants by the U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Spanish diplomatic sources said here Friday.

The increased IAEA supervision would concern the design, construction and operation of nuclear power plants, the sources said, adding that Soviet officials has said that they would also be willing to give the U.N. agency information in case of accident.

The Soviet statements reportedly were made during this week's visit here by Spanish premier Felipe Gonzalez, the first Western head of government to visit the Soviet Union since the Chernobyl nuclear disaster on April 26.

Soviet authorities came under sharp international criticism for not having provided timely information about the Chernobyl accident to the Soviet people, foreign countries and the IAEA.

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RELATED ISSUES

USSR'S DOBRYNIN WRITES ON ARMS CONTROL

AU231337 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 22 May 86 p 6

[Article by Anatoliy Dobrynin, CPSU Central Committee secretary: "Disarmament and Progress; the USSR's Peace Initiatives and the Developing Countries"]

[Excerpts] In the present epoch there is no other sensible road than that of halting the nuclear arms race and of preserving and consolidating peace. The ideal of socialism is a world without arms and violence, a world in which every nation freely chooses its path of development and its way of life.

Mankind is faced with a number of complicated and difficult tasks. But there is also the highest task, namely to avert a nuclear war. Sometimes the impression is created that certain representatives of developing countries underrate this primary task, under pressure of really complicated internal problems. If one fails to avert a nuclear war, then what is the use of all the efforts in the fight for national independence and the social progress of the peoples? A halt to the arms race would enable the whole world to release immense resources, which could also be utilized in the interests of developing countries. The fight against the threat of a nuclear war is also a fight for the development of countries and peoples who have liberated themselves.

One can recall that, under conditions when attention to nuclear issues was sharper, the Soviet Government -- after weighing the circumstances connected with the security of its own people and of all mankind -- adopted the decision to extend the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear tests up to 6 August 1986, that means up to the date when the first atomic bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima 41 years ago, causing hundreds of thousands of people to perish in consequence. It was the Soviet Union that submitted the proposals on a total liquidation of nuclear and chemical weapons; on the renunciation of the creation of further means of mass destruction -- above all in space; and on the dissolution of military blocs and limitation of military budgets.

The Soviet program for consolidating peace and creating a system of international security organically contains initiatives that are aimed at achieving a political settlement of conflicts in various parts of the globe.

We attach great importance in our foreign policy to consolidating security in Asia and the Pacific area. The Soviet Government has proposed an extensive package of measures that should lead to a constructive dialogue between the states in the Asian-Pacific area and to a joint search for paths for resolving the controversial issues among them and for achieving mutually advantageous cooperation. The joint effort of all states in this broad area could in the future enable the convening of an all-Asian forum that would aid the elaboration of a reliable mechanism for all-Asian security and the establishment of zones free of nuclear and chemical arms in this area. We also suggest preparations for a conference of Pacific states on issues of security and cooperation. The Soviet Union welcomes the efforts of governments and of the peace-loving public of states in the southern part of the Pacific to create a nuclear-free zone.

We are devoting considerable effort to normalizing the situation in the Mediterranean, which has recently become dangerously complicated due to the activities of American Armed Forces. In the interest of transforming this area into a zone of stable peace and cooperation, the USSR has proposed the withdrawal of USSR and U.S. fleets from the Mediterranean. At the same time, our country has submitted a proposal to convene a representative conference, similar to an all-European conference, that would make it possible to study the entire complex of issues for consolidating peace in the area, including measures of trust that have already asserted themselves in world practice.

From the viewpoint of principles, goals, and contents, this cooperation represents a new brand of international economic relations, which stands in opposition to the system of exploitation of these countries by supranational companies and which consolidates the positions of young states in the fight against neocolonialism. This cooperation is multifaceted, it encompasses various spheres, and it helps the young states to build an independent economy and to promote their culture, as well as to prudently train their own cadres. The number of developing countries with which the USSR cooperates on the basis of interstate treaties has increased from 18 in 1960 to 70 in 1986. More than 2,100 industrial enterprises, electric power plants, and agricultural and other facilities have been built in the developing countries in cooperation with our country. Currently the construction of more than 1,200 plants is either under way or being prepared. We are firmly convinced that the principle of "arms instead of progress," foisted on countries by militarism, must be replaced by the principle "through disarmament to progress." It is particularly toward this end that the Soviet Union's proposals on limiting military budgets and on transferring a part of the released means to aid the developing countries are oriented.

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RELATED ISSUES

BRAZIL'S SODRE CONTINUED NEGOTIATIONS ON DISARMAMENT

PY230137 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 May 86 p 5

[Text] Brasilia--Speaking at a luncheon given at Itamaraty to bid farewell to Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Chernyshev, Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre stated: "Brazil participates in initiatives for a broad discussion on the international economic system, opening a dialogue for the promotion of new forms of cooperation, in defense of our interest, and against protectionist measures. We also want to warn our partners about the seriousness of the current economic-financial situation."

Sodre said that the Brazilian Foreign Ministry has studied specific matters related to the foreign debt, employing diplomatic channels to show the need for new methods of dealing with the issue, taking into account all aspects, including the social and economic aspects.

Besides the priority attention paid to the urgent need for a new international economic order, Brazil condemns the arms race and supports the negotiations that may lead to nuclear disarmament. Sodre stated: "We feel that the United States and the Soviet Union have special responsibilities within the disarmament process which must progress through the effective preparation of bilateral and multilateral negotiations, especially at the UN Conference on Disarmament."

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13 JUNE 1986

Worldwide Report

ARMS CONTROL

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SDI AND SPACE ARMS

FRENCH PRIME MINISTER DISCUSSES SDI PARTICIPATION

AU221535 Paris AFP in English 1525 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Paris, May 22 (AFP) — Prime Minister Jacques Chirac said Thursday that France must take part in the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), a space-based defense project which he called "inevitable, irreversible and justifiable."

The announcement by the conservative premier, who took over the reins of government in March, marks a switch from the previous Socialist administration that had endorsed President Francois Mitterrand's idea of a European civilian high-tech research project, Eureka, as an alternative to SDI.

Mr. Chirac said France "could not stay out" of SDI. "France is the third world power in space technology after the United States and the Soviet Union," he said. "It is a rank France must not lose."

Critics here charge that Washington would only allow participation in SDI on a subcontracting basis, that research benefits would not be shared with U.S. partners and that it would lead to a brain drain to the United States.

Mr. Chirac said he approved of SDI "on a military level" and that it would be "irresponsible" for France not to take part.

Washington "could not afford" to fall behind the Soviet Union which is pursuing its research beyond what is allowed by the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, he said.

He said SDI was inevitable because throughout history "there is no example of strengthening the sword that has not entailed bolstering the shield."

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CSO: 5200/2691

U. S.-USSR GENEVA TALKS

SOVIET COLONEL CONTRASTS APPROACHES TO STRATEGIC PARITY

Moscow TRUD in Russian 2 Apr 86 p 3

[Article by Col V. Morozov, USSR State Prize winner: "Strategic Parity"]

> [Text] "We... achieved strategic military parity, which substantially limited the aggressive plans and opportunities for imperialism to unleash a nuclear war."
>
> (From the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th Party Congress)

Strategic parity has already existed for a decade and a half. Its heart is equality in the quantity and quality of USSR and U. S. strategic weapons, as well as Warsaw Treaty Organization and NATO intermediate range nuclear weapons and conventional weapons. By preventing American imperialism from achieving military superiority over the Socialist community, the USSR and the other fraternal countries are thereby guaranteeing to mankind its most valuable right -- the right to life.

The preservation of parity between the USSR and U. S. and between the Socialist and Capitalist worlds is not only a factor which ensures the peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems.

This parity is precisely the line from which reduction of nuclear weapons may begin, and it opens the path to real disarmament and the practical implementation of the program for nuclear disarmament proposed by the Soviet Union, which envisions the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000.

In the modern world, where states with different social systems coexist and where mighty military and political groupings with tremendous stockpiles of weapons, especially nuclear weapons, oppose one another, practical measures to halt the arms race and toward real disarmament and military detente are impossible if one of the parties strives to achieve unilateral military advantages. In today's real situation, when through the fault of the U. S. and NATO the world situation has become sharply exacerbated and the urgent question of how to stop the militaristic mindlessness of the U. S. and preserve peace in space has been placed on the agenda, observance of the

principle of equality and equal security has taken on primary importance. It is emphasized in the new, large-scale Soviet peace initiatives that proposals have been added to the previously adopted commitment not to be first to use nuclear weapons and not to place anti-satellite systems in space; proposals to reduce by 50 percent nuclear weapons existing in the USSR and U. S. which can reach the territory of one another, with a mandatory condition of a complete ban on all types of nuclear tests.

A correct assessment of the correlation of military forces between East and West was and is of extremely great importance in the struggle for peace, detente and disarmament. It is not easy to assess the military balance of the forces on the two sides. But, despite all difficulties, the military and political leaders of a number of leading states are fairly unanimous in assessing the balance of military forces: At present one can speak about the existence of rough parity of these forces.

Strategic military parity did not take place immediately. In the early 1960's U. S. nuclear capability exceeded the level of nuclear weapons of the Soviet Union. The U. S. developed the so-called strategic triad, consisting of intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine launched ballistic missiles and heavy bombers. The U. S. was first in the world to begin to equip its ballistic missiles with multiple, independently targetable reentry vehicles [MIRV] and to embark upon the creation of a new type of strategic weapon, long-range cruise missiles.

In the 1970's 550 new Minuteman-3 ICBMs were deployed, each with three warheads, and the Trident-1 SLBM was created. Thirty one submarines were equipped with Poseidon missiles (each with 10-14 warheads). Strategic bombers began to be armed with SRAM [short range attack missiles] (up to 20 missiles per aircraft). As a result, by the start of the 1980's the U. S. strategic capability in nuclear warheads had approximately doubled, from 5,100 to 10,000 warheads.

As a result of retaliatory measures which it adopted, by the start of the 1970's the Soviet Union had succeeded in eliminating the U. S. preponderance of strategic weapons. In February 1971 the U. S. president was forced to state: "Today neither the United States, nor the Soviet Union has clear nuclear superiority." This means that the White House officially acknowledged the equality of strategic nuclear forces of the two main powers which had taken place historically. The achievement of strategic parity was later repeatedly verified during the process of working out the Soviet-American SALT-II Agreement and was officially recorded by the leaders of both countries upon its signing in summer 1979. Such equality became the foundation on which the transition from the "cold war" to detente took place in the 1970's. The peoples of the whole world breathed more freely.

It it realistic for the U. S. and NATO to try to achieve military superiority under modern conditions? No, of course. The USSR will never make an agreement which infringes upon its security and gives an advantage to the other side. Soviet leaders at the very highest level have repeatedly indicated this. As for U. S. attempts to destroy equality by deploying intermediate range nuclear missiles in Western Europe, as is known, our

effective countermeasures were taken in response. It was then not possible to destroy the approximate parity of forces which had taken shape. Now an attempt is being made to destroy parity by placing strike weapons in space.

Soviet leaders and the leaders of the other Socialist countries have repeatedly stated that the strategic military equality with the Capitalist world achieved by the Socialist countries serves as a factor which restrains the aspirations of aggressive forces. Calculations about shaking this equality are doomed to failure. Military equality at the lowest possible levels of weapons is the constructive approach taken by the Soviet Union toward nuclear disarmament in the interest of all peoples.

As was noted in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th Party Congress, the current level of the balance of nuclear capabilities on the opposing sides is immeasurably high. So far it is ensuring equal danger for each of the sides. But only so far. Continuation of the nuclear arms race will unavoidably increase this equal danger and may bring it to such levels that it will cease being a factor for military and political restraint. Consequently, it is necessary first of all to greatly reduce the level of military confrontation.

The imperialist states, led by the United States, are carrying out a diametrically opposite policy. Whereas the Socialist countries are striving with all of their efforts to give a second breath to detente, the enemies of peace, who are carrying out a counteroffensive against detente, have made and are making their main strike primarily against force equality, and are trying to destroy it to their advantage.

Let us speak frankly. At present the number of strategic launchers on the two sides is practically unchanged by comparison with 1979. The Soviet Union has 2,504 and the United States has 2,215. It is clear from these figures that the USSR has somewhat more launchers. But, on the other hand, the U. S. continues to have an advantage in the number of warheads, owing to heavy bombers with long-range cruise missiles.

Nuclear equality between the USSR and the U. S. is made up not only of Soviet and American strategic weapons. U. S. intermediate range nuclear weapons, create, as is known, a threat to the territory of the USSR and its allies. They include forward based weapons and new first strike missiles (Pershing-2 ballistic missiles and land based cruise missiles). These weapons are in Western Europe. Moreover, NATO has corresponding British and French nuclear weapons in this region.

Everyone understands that in response to the strengthening of NATO nuclear forces in Europe, the Soviet Union is forced, in addition to nuclear-capable aircraft, to deploy in the European part of the USSR (and not on foreign territories!) its own intermediate range nuclear missiles; not, however, disrupting the correlation of forces in the region to its advantage.

If one analyzes the existing data which characterize the current correlation of intermediate range nuclear forces in the European region, one can speak about approximate equality in this category of nuclear weapons as well.

And one can only regret that, in its illusory desire to achieve military superiority over the USSR, the United States is not ceasing attempts to disrupt force equality to its advantage, and has now chosen space as its sphere of confrontation, striving to place strike weapons there in the hope of "outstripping" the USSR.

Today, in connection with the publication of large-scale new Soviet initiatives, a number of bourgeois newspapers in the West are trying to assess them as a sign of the "weakness" of the Soviet Union, which, they say, has nothing with which to respond adequately to the American SOI [strategic defense initiative] and will probably "lag behind" the U. S. in competition in the field of space technology. But it is necessary to know and remember the lessons of history. The USSR cannot overlook the frankly militaristic U. S. policy to further the arms race, or its attempt to shift it into space.

"One must not today, in the nuclear-space era," stated M. S. Gorbachev in a speech on Soviet television, "think in the categories of the past." The question is about the existence of mankind. The Soviet Union will make every effort to ensure universal security.

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CSO: 5200/1346

SALT/START ISSUES

USSR: REAGAN TO BREAK SALT II WITH CRUISE MISSILES ON B-52'S

TIME Magazine Cited

LD120640 Moscow TASS in English 0624 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] New York, May 12, TASS--As is reported by the weekly TIME, the Reagan administration has taken a decision to break the unratified SALT-2 Treaty.

President Reagan, the weekly wrote, sent "a confidential letter to West European leaders," declaring his "intention to break the SALT-2 Treaty later this year as the Airforce increases the number of B-52 heavy bombers outfitted with nuclear-tipped cruise missiles," and thus exceed the limit set by the SALT-2 Treaty. The weekly reported that the letter was discussed last week at the meeting of leaders of seven capitalist countries in Tokyo, and that U.S. allies were upset.

Reagan "promised to take their views into account when the matter is discussed at another National Security Council meeting, perhaps this week. Abandoning SALT-2 would be a blow" to the Soviet-American arms control talks that resumed in Geneva, TIME admitted.

Would 'Poison' Geneva Climate

LD121420 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1232 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpts] Moscow, 12 May (TASS)--TASS observer on military issues Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

The U.S. administration, judging by everything, has decided to break the SALT II Treaty. According to the U.S. weekly TIME, the head of the White House has sent a "confidential letter" to leaders of West European states, in which he has informed them of his "intention to violate the SALT II Treaty later this year," when the number of heavy bombers equipped with cruise missiles will exceed the limit established by the treaty.

As is known, Article 5 of the treaty limits launching installations for ICBM's fitted with MIRVed, ballistic missiles of the "air-surface" class, fitted with MIRV's, as well as heavy bombers fitted for cruise missiles with a range of more than 600 km, to a total not exceeding 1320 units.

Thus, having earlier adopted the tactics of "slipping out of the treaty," the U.S. leadership is now preparing to reject it openly. This is evidence of the fact that opponents of detente, ardent "hawks" who are fulfilling the demands formulated by ultra-right-wing circles in the United States, are increasingly gaining the upper hand in the administration. Let us remember how, last year, when the U.S. President was on his way to the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva, the world got to know of the U.S. defense secretary's letter, which entreated him not to agree to any accords with the USSR that may confirm the treaties on strategic arms limitation and on antimissile defense. The demand to reject the SALT II Treaty has more than once been also put forward by the "ideological headquarters" of the right-wing circles--"The Heritage Foundation."

Official Washington's intention is also evidence of something else--of the fact that notwithstanding the notes of demonstrative love of peace in its statements, the practical policy of the current administration in relation to treaties and agreements over the whole period of its government has not undergone any positive change. The White House, evidently, continues to follow that program statement made by the U.S. President in May 1981: "The discussion, if it is conducted in the administration, will be conducted around the issue of how to make weapons and not about whether we should reject arms for the sake of treaties and agreements."

Certain circles in the United States are unhappy with the SALT II Treaty because it is based on the principle of equality and equal security and limits U.S. arms buildup programs by preventing them from developing to their full extent. The aim behind the refusal to observe SALT II is quite clear--to begin destroying the system of treaties and agreements in order to open the way to an unbridled arms race and to attempt to realize the illusory dream of achieving superiority over the Soviet Union. No less obvious is the fact that if the U.S. administration takes this path, which will be ruinous for the cause of detente and disarmament, then after SALT II a similar fate will await the ABM Treaty, which is already becoming a serious obstacle to the U.S. "star wars" program.

Yet it is these two treaties together with the provisional agreement on certain measures in the area of limiting strategic strike weapons concluded in 1972 which regulate Soviet-U.S. relations in the sphere of strategic weapons. Sabotage of the positive progress previously achieved in the area of restraining the arms race would, without doubt, poison the climate at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons under way in Geneva and would cause a sharp deterioration both in Soviet-U.S. relations and in the international situation as a whole.

The U.S. administration must not delude itself that it will be allowed to determine, by its own arbitrary will, which obligations it will observe and which not. To expect the other side to fall in with such a policy on the part of the United States is a dangerous delusion. He who in his actions continues to be guided by such calculations rather than by common sense and by a realistic approach will bear full responsibility for the serious consequences to peace.

U.S. Rejects 'Pledges'

LD122310 Moscow World Service in English 2010 GMT 12 May 86

[Yuriy Solton commentary]

The SALT II Treaty put on record the military and strategic parity between the Soviet Union and the United States. It provides for tough, quantitative and qualitative restrictions on nuclear weapons, the most powerful type of arms.

The United States has failed to ratify the treaty, but the Reagan administration in May 1982 said that it would comply with its provisions in practice. The promise did not last long. As soon as the work on the administration's military program came in conflict with the treaty, Washington started making inroads upon it.

The production begins of long-range cruise missiles. Pershing-2 and Tomahawk missiles, which are strategic arms in relation to the Soviet Union, are deployed in Western Europe. The MK missile is developed. Orders are issued to develop another two types of intercontinental missile. All this has been done in violation of SALT II.

The United States is going to start sea trials on the 20th of a new submarine armed with Trident-1 ballistic missiles. To remain within the limit allowed by the treaty, the United States is supposed to scrape two (?0)-type submarines. The Pentagon is against this. TIME magazine has now reported that President Reagan in a confidential letter to West European leaders says he is going to stop complying with SALT II later this year, when the number of B-52 strategic bombers armed with cruise missiles rises above the limit set by the treaty.

TIME magazine rightly says that the American administration's refusal to continue to honor the treaty would damage Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva. The United States is going to make a stab in the back using the campaign of slander over the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant as a cover.

One is bound to ask at least two questions. How can the administration's readiness to drop SALT II be reconciled with its pronounced intention to seek a stop to the arms race on earth and prevent it from spreading to outer space. Can Washington be trusted at all in such an important matter as nuclear disarmament at a time when it has remorselessly gone back on its own pledges?

Reagan Informed Summit Leaders

LD131548 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] TIME magazine reported on Sunday that President Reagan had tentatively decided to breach the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty by December. Here are some details.

According to the TIME story, Ronald Reagan told the Tokyo summit participants that more B-52 bombers would be converted to carry nuclear-tipped cruise missiles, putting the number over the treaty's limit of 1,320 by the end of the year. Reacting to strong protests from the other Western leaders, the American President promised to take their views into account before the final decision was made. The SALT II Treaty was signed in 1979 in Vienna, Austria, but has never been ratified by the United States. The treaty contained a protocol concerning long-range cruise missiles of various (?basing modes). If SALT II were ratified by the United States these long-range cruise missiles would be banned, making it impossible for the Pentagon to deploy thousands of low-flying, accurate and hard to detect Tomahawks. They've been already deployed in Western Europe on naval vessels such as the battleships New Jersey and Missouri and with several squadrons of strategic B-52 bombers.

There have been several occasions when Washington was confronted with the dilemma of whether to observe the provisions of SALT II or breach them. All of them dealt with nuclear powered submarines. All the subs with the Poseidon missiles had to be scrapped to allow the commissioning of new subs of the Trident type. To be sure, the Reagan administration and the Pentagon have never had much respect for the SALT II Treaty. Their consent to abide by it was dictated by financial considerations. It has turned out that the upkeep costs of old submarines are so high that it makes no sense to keep them in service. However, with long-range cruise missiles the situation appears to be different. They are much cheaper to build and much easier to deploy in substantial numbers than any other nuclear arms. And so to, to hell with SALT II. There is yet another reason why the Reagan administration is against restraint in the military field. Its star wars program is well under way. Billions of dollars have been spent on some of its components.

Two types of lasers are expected to be ready for testing in the early 1990's.

An arms race in space will most certainly destroy the previous accords in arms control and unleash an uncontrollable race in all types of weapons. Being well aware of this, the White House has no qualms about putting its allies (?on notice). And this is exactly what President Reagan did in Tokyo when he informed the summit about his tentative decision to breach the SALT II Treaty.

U.S. officials figure out that with time the initial anger in London, Rome and some other capitals will subside, and the violation of SALT II by the United States will be accepted as an accomplished fact. Should this happen, will all of us, the United States included, be in trouble? Yes. Do they care about this in Washington? No.

U.S. Motives Questioned

LD141025 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] There was no reaction from the White House to a story in TIME magazine concerning the Reagon administration's tentative decision to breach the provisions of the SALT II Treaty by the end of this year. According to TIME, President Reagan sent a confidential letter to a group of Western leaders in-

forming them of the decision to go beyond the treaty ceiling by adding more strategic B-52 bombers armed with long-range cruise missiles to the existing fleet. The confidential letter was discussed at the Tokyo summit earlier this month, and according to TIME magazine there were very strong objections from Margaret Thatcher and several other leaders. Whether or not these objections will be taken into account is not quite clear.

Consultations at such a high level on whether or not to honor SALT II suggests that the previous arms control accords between the United States and the Soviet Union stand in the way of the current American military build-up. Being an impediment, these accords have to be thrown away, violated, scrapped, or discarded. Here is an example. The Pentagon wants to build and deploy thousands of long-range cruise missiles around the Soviet Union's perimeter. As a matter of fact this program has been under way for some time already. This being the case, how can there by any faith in arms control in the White House?

We are told that the administration's most burning desire is to make the nukes obsolete and redundant, and that is what star wars is all about. But then they take a World War II battleship out of the mothballs, spend many millions modernizing it and equipping it with nuclear-tipped cruise missiles. Is this making the nukes obsolete? Or take the U.S. Air Force. Apparently not content with two new types of strategic bombers that are coming up, the Pentagon seeks to make the fullest possible use of its aging fleet of B-52's by fitting more and more of them with those long-range cruise missiles. Is this getting rid of the nukes? To have more of everything--bombers, submarines and ballistic missiles in addition to strike space weapons, such is the perverted logic of the U.S. administration in making our planet a safer place to live in.

'Concern' Among Allies

LD131836 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 13 May 86

[Commentary by political observer Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] In June 1979 I had occasion to witness the signing of an important agreement at the Soviet-American summit meeting in Vienna which is called for short SALT II. It is true that even then, certain of my U.S. colleagues who had gathered for the festive ceremony in the Vienna Hofburg Palace warned: SALT II will hardly be ratified by the United States since the military industrial complex sees it as a threat to its business.

These predictions have been fulfilled. The treaty has not even been presented to the Senate for approval. However, because of the popularity of the idea of disarmament throughout the world, including among the American public, Washington did not risk simply renouncing the Vienna accords and announced that the treaty, although unratified, would be observed by the United States. It is true that all this time SALT II has been a thorn in the flesh of American military industrialists, and they have been striving in all possible ways to get rid of it. Sometimes they expatiated on the treaty's imperfection and sometimes they accused the Soviet Union of violating it.

Meanwhile, the very idea of arms limitation was being undermined. And now that Washington has openly begun to implement a strategy of neoglobalism--from the bombings of Libyan cities to the stepped-up production of nuclear and space weapons--the present U.S. administration evidently considers it possible to finally discard the SALT-II Treaty too. In any case, as TIME magazine has reported, it was decided at a secret conference of the U.S. National Security Council to violate that treaty, in particular concerning number of cruise missiles. Appropriate plans, as TIME also points out, were expounded to the participants of the recent Rokyo conference of the Big Seven.

It is true that, as is noted for example in the West German press, these plans gave rise to no small degree of concern even among the closest U.S. allies. FRG Chancellor Kohl is even alleged to have sent a special message to President Reagan calling upon him not to violate SALT II. Of course, it is difficult to contemplate that Washington will in this case--as in all other ones--listen to the opinion of its partners. However, for the sake of fairness it is worthwhile asking the question: In connection with the Chernobyl accident, Washington has expatiated a great deal about the crisis of trust in international relations. But what trust is there at all when the Washington administration both practically, and now evidently also formally, breaks off a very important treaty under which stands the signature of the President of the United States?

Claims of Soviet Violations

OW140549 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0200 GMT 14 May 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast; Sergey Alekseyev commentary]

[Text] According to information received, the U.S. administration intends to tear up the SALT II agreement. Our commentator:

[Alekseyev] Hello, comrades: Let me remind you that in 1979 this agreement on limiting strategic offensive weapons was reached and signed between the USSR and the United States. There was a stipulation to reduce existing nuclear weapons, and restrictions were placed on modernizing old and building new weapons, and so on. I will not enumerate all the agreement's articles and rules. They are as well known as the deep satisfaction and sincere approval with which the whole world greeted these points.

But in the United States, from the very beginning, serious hurdles were placed in the path of SALT II. Under the pressure of the influential military, the agreement was not ratified by the U.S. Congress. With the coming to power of the present administration talk could be heard on the failure of the agreement, which supposedly gives a one-sided advantage to the Russians.

However, no decision to completely abandon SALT II was made. This is understandable. U.S. foreign policy would have been presented to the whole world as ugly as it continues to postulate its receptiveness and unchanging peaceable disposition and so on. Moreover, such an understanding gave birth to a new propaganda move. In essence, while breaking the rules or teetering on the verge of breaking a number of the agreement's articles, Washington began acting in the following manner: To start with, the needs of the Pentagon were determined and which particular article prevented the Pentagon from arming itself, for example so as to acquire a new long-range cruise missile.

Later, a suitable analogue was picked out of the Soviet arsenal. This was followed by the next stage: the selection of so-called arguments that are supposed to prove that the Soviet Union is the transgressor.

All this was supposed to have planted the seeds of doubt as to the honesty of the Soviet side. However, it became difficult, if not impossible, for Washington to hide its true attitudes toward SALT II and its open desire for an arms buildup by means of propaganda tricks. There is no other way of explaining the candid admission in the U.S. President's recent letter to the leaders of the Western countries: We intend to break the SALT II agreement later this year when the number of U.S. B-52 bombers, equipped with cruise missiles carrying nuclear warheads, will exceed the limits established by the agreement.

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SALT/START ISSUES

TASS APRIL-MAY REPORTS ON U.S. DEPLOYMENTS

B-52's on Guam

LD252236 Moscow TASS in English 2156 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] New York, April 25, TASS--The United Nations secretariat took note of the dangerous character of the Pentagon's nuclear preparations on the Island of Guam. Even now, as is clear from the report published by the secretariat, 368 nuclear warheads are deployed there.

The 43d wing of the Strategic Air Force is stationed at Andersen Air Force base with its permanently deployed nuclear-capable strategic bombers B-52.

The Third Air Division carries out operations in the region of the Pacific Ocean west of the international date line, as well as in the Far East and in South-East Asia.

Air Force Cited on MX

LD090724 Moscow TASS in English 0649 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Washington, May 9, TASS--As Thomas Cooper, assistant to the secretary of the Air Force, has said at hearings in the U.S. Senate, it is being planned to bring into service the first MX intercontinental ballistic missile already in Spetember this year. In all, 10 such first-strike missiles will be deployed before the end of 1986. The ranking Pentagon spokesman also pointed out that a full-scale development of the mobile-based intercontinental ballistic missile Midgetman would be started in the 1987 fiscal year. A sum of $1,400 million is being asked for the purposes.

MX in Wyoming

LD202124 Moscow TASS in English 2308 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] New York, May 20, TASS--The first fully fitted out MX missile will be deployed at its silo in the south of the Wyoming state within the next 30 days, informed USAF representatives. AP dispatch indicates in this context that all in all, it is planned to deploy in Wyoming 50 such ICBM's with 10 independently targetable warheads. Political analysts write that construction and deployment of these missiles are a part of the Reagan administration's general course for strengthening the nuclear first-strike potential.

MX Test in California

LD212156 Moscow TASS in English 2143 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] San Francisco, May 22, TASS--Another test launch of the MX intercontinental ballistic missile has been conducted off the Vandenberg Air Force base, California. According to a spokesman of the U.S. Air Force, the test was a success. The launch was conducted in conditions resembling to the maximum those of the battlefield. The missile was fitted out with 10 unloaded warheads. The creation and deployment of first-strike missiles is the cornerstone of the large-scale program of the so-called 'rearmament of America' announced by the U.S. administration.

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SALT/START ISSUES

PAPER REPORTS ON U.S. DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR ASW SYSTEM

PM141301 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 6 Apr 86 p 3

[TASS report: "Pentagon's Nuclear Gifts"]

[Text] Washington, 5 Apr--The Pentagon has secretly begun creating [sozdaniye] a new type of nuclear weapon for use by the U.S. Navy. This news was obtained by the well-informed WASHINGTON POST.

The newspaper reports that the matter concerns the development [razrabotka] of a new antisubmarine warfare [ASW] system equipped with a nuclear or neutron warhead. It takes the form of a missile launched from a surface ship which enters the water at a set point and explodes, like a depth charge, destroying the enemy submarine. The Pentagon has requested $47 million in fiscal 1987 for the creation [sozdaniye] of this weapon. Overall, the production of the 1,000 missiles demanded by the U.S. Navy will work out at $2 billion, according to the estimates of the main accounting agency.

Addressing Congressional hearings, U.S. Navy Secretary J. Lehman admitted that his department plans to replace the existing antisubmarine weapon by his new ASW system. Furthermore, he refused to give any guarantees in this context that the United States will not be first to use this new type of nuclear weapon.

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CSO: 5200/1374

SALT/START ISSUES

SOVIET MILITARY JOURNAL DISCUSSES U.S. STEALTH PROGRAM

Moscow ZARUBEZHNOYE VOYENNOYE OBOZRENIYE in Russian No 11, Nov 85 (Signed to press 11 Nov 85) pp 49-51

[Article by Col F. Dmitriyev, Candidate of Technical Sciences; "Work on the U.S. Stealth Program"]

[Text] One of the characteristic peculiarities of the arms race, unleashed by the militaristic circles of the USA and the NATO bloc, is the planning for the qualitative improvement of the means of armed conflict in the distant future. According to NATO strategists' plans, this presumes the use in weapons and military equipment of future methods and resources, based both on the assimilated achievements of scientific progress, and on those which are at the present time in the conceptual stage of development. In this case, Western military experts consider that such an approach allows military-technical ideas based on new material capabilities and discoveries during basic and applied research, and not occurring in the past because of their technical unfeasability, to be fully implemented.

The STEALTH program--a program to develop aircraft, pilotless vehicles and cruise missiles which are difficult to detect by radioelectronic and infrared air defense systems--relates to the specific measures of the Pentagon in this sphere, and widely discussed in the foreign press.

Work on the program began in 1977, but recently received a new impetus in connection with the missions assigned to the U.S. Air Force to provide, in the 1990's, effective strikes by tactical aviation through the entire depth of the TVD. Thus, as can be judged by foreign press materials, it was considered that solving this problem by improving airborne electronic warfare (EW) systems by using the significant achievements emerging in the realm of radar and infrared technology will not be successful. In particular, it was determined by U.S. and NATO military specialists that such EW systems as anti-radiation reflectors and radioelectronic suppression devices which radiate noise and multiplex pulse interference signals would be practically ineffective in the 1990's. It is considered that their operations would be neutralized almost completely by the employment of phased-array type antennas; improved moving target indicators; modes for the rapid shift (from pulse to pulse) of the carrier frequency and the frequency of the return pulses, etc. Thanks to the emergence of new multi-spectral aircraft infrared detection systems, the

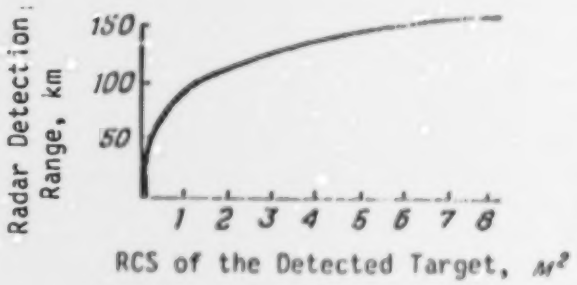
effectiveness of existing and future IR interference and decoys have been significantly reduced.

It is noted in the foreign press that precisely the above noted circumstances forced American developers of aviation equipment to recall the experience acquired by Lockheed during the development of the U-2 and especially the SR-71 spy plane. It is reported that the primary directions in the firm's work, to reduce the degree of these aircrafts' detectability, was preserved in the STEALTH program: the reduction in the intensity of the power plant's infrared radiation and a decrease in the airframe's radar cross section (RCS). At the same time, questions regarding a further increase in the effectiveness of the operations of EW systems were addressed for this program. In addition, other possibilities for aircraft to overcome future enemy air defense systems were researched within its limits.

The greatest efforts were launched within the area of reducing the radar detectability of an airborne vehicle by decreasing its RCS. It is especially emphasized in the foreign press that an effective reduction in the detectability of aircraft by air defense radar systems can be sufficiently achieved only with a significant decrease in RCS. This conclusion is based on the following dependence between the range of operations of a typical radar (R) and magnitude of the RCS (0) of its detected aerial target: R=(ko)1/4. It is presented graphically in Figure 1. It is evident from the graphic that with a 30-percent decrease in the RCS, the range is reduced by 16 percent, and with a

Figure 1.

Graph Showing Radar Range as a Function of an Aircraft's Radar Cross Section (RCS).



75-percent decrease in the RCS, range is reduced by 29 percent. This shows that with a sharp decrease in RCS, the enemy's air defense radar's operating range of operations can become so short that the aircraft is considered to be practically invisible if, while overcoming the air defenses it will remain at a fixed distance from the radar the entire time, including flight at high altitudes. Is it possible to achieve this? American military specialists, working on the STEALTH program answer this question affirmatively and cite the example of the B-52 and B-1A, the geometric dimensions of which (length, height, wing span) differ by approximately 10 percent, but their RCS differs almost by a factor of 10 (100 m^2 for the B-52 and 10 m^2 for the B-1A at a wave length of 10 cm). But this is not the limit. Statements of separate aviation equipment developers concerning the possibility to increase the RCS of future aircraft to hundredths of a square meter and less, appear in the Western press.

Judging by foreign press reports, at the present time, work in the U.S. to decrease the RCS of airborne vehicles is being conducted along the following principal lines:

--Perfecting the frame configuration. It presumes, in particular, the potnetial decrease in the surface area, the elimination of surface intersections, especially 90° angles, the replacement of planes with curved surfaces, and also the emergence and elimination of resonating components, the length of which are multiple half-wave lengths of the radar signals illuminating the aircraft.

--The assimilation of manufacturing technology and the processing of composite materials, which do not reflect electromagnetic energy, in order to use them to replace traditional materials used in aircraft construction.

--The development of highly effective coatings which absorb or scatter radar signals' electromagnetic energy.

It is believed that by realizing the first of these directions, it will be extremely difficult to achieve a compromise between the aircraft's shape, having a minimum RCS, and satisfactory flight characteristics. It is planned to solve this problem by the wide use of computer-aided design. The effectiveness of such design methods can be illustrated by the following example. The American B-52 STRATO FORTRESS and F-4 PHANTOM aircraft were developed ignoring the requirements to reduce the RCS, and its magnitude is equal to 100 and 5 m^2 respectively. The F-14 TOMCAT and F-15 EAGLE fighters were developed considering such a requirement, and their RCS is around 3 m^2. The F-16 FIGHTING FALCON and the B-1A stemmed from the greatest possible reduction in RCS during the design stage, and this specification is 1.7 and 10 m^2 for them.

A still more interesting example is the experience acquired in reducing the RCS of the B-1B bomber. The foreign press reports that on this aircraft, because the radioelectronic defensive system antenna, located in the vertical stabilizer, was replaced with an antenna built into the fuselage, the curvature of the leading edge of the wing panels was changed, and the air intake sections were improved, the B-1B's RCS was reduced to 1 m^2. As a result of computer computations, numerous aspect models of the prospective aircraft, designed using the achievements in STEALTH technology, were constructed.

The second direction to reduce the RCS is the employment of new non-metallic construction materials, so-called composites. American military experts consider that in the future, 50 percent (by weight) of the elements, components and units of flying systems will be manufactured by them. Their insufficient strength especially fatigue, and in a number of instances, the high manufacturing and processing cost is hindering the U.S. aviation industry from rapidly assimilating these materials.

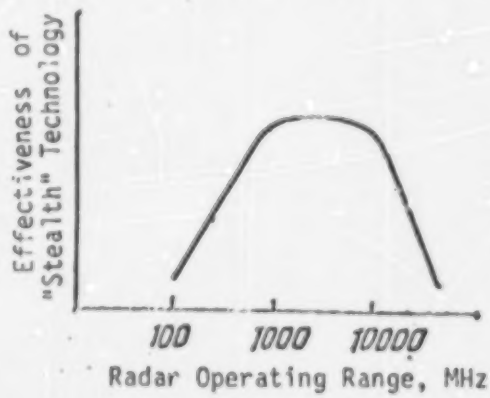
It is noted in the Western press that in recent years, within the realm of perfecting antiradar coatings, considerable successes have been achieved in the expansion of their frequency band and reduction in specific weight. It is reported, in particular, that the development of coatings 2.5 mm thick, provide an absorption of radar signals with a wave length from 2.3 to 3.6 cm by 10 dB.

According to estimates of foreign specialists, this halves the operational range of such radars. A special problem is considered to be the coatings' insufficient heat resistance that leads to their burning up at super and hypersonic speeds, and a high friction coefficient. It is believed that it will be impossible to achieve, in the near future, a sharp reduction in the specific weight of the materials used in the coatings. Therefore, it is not intended to put them on the entire surface of the aircraft (except for special reconnaissance aircraft), but only on those parts of the frame which strongly influence the over-all RCS.

In a number of foreign publications, an opinion regarding the limitation of possibilities to decrease the RCS is being expressed. The authors of these articles think that STEALTH technology will be the most effective only against those ground radars most widely deployed at the present time. For example, Figure 2 is a graph showing the dependence of this technology's effectiveness on the radar's operating frequency. The graph's form is explained in the following manner. At frequencies near 30 MHz, the RCS will increase sharply, since the entire airframe, equal to a length of approximately 10 meters, approaches the radar's resonant frequency, and the "smoothness" in the surface junctions scarcely affect the magnitude of the REC at these frequencies of more than 10 GHz, any unevenness in the airframe begins to act like angled reflectors, which is all the more difficult to eliminate.

Figure 2.

Graph Showing the Effectiveness of STEALTH Technology as a Function of Radar Operating Frequency.



On the basis of these considerations, foreign specialists concluded that radars, as before, should remain the primary means for air surveillance, and therefore their essential improvement is required, especially in the realm of expanding the frequency range, the adoption of automated systems and the joining of a number of radars into a net with the simultaneous organization of information exchange between them in digital form.

The reduction in the intensity of IR radiation is primarily considered with respect to the aircraft's engines since the aerodynamic heating of the airframe, even at very high speeds, is considered to be inconsequential from the point of view of its detection by IR systems. For example, with a speed of M=0.9, the greatest heating of the airframe does not exceed 50° C. However, for hypersonic speed aircraft, it is necessary to consider the cooling of their sheathing.

For the engines, an effective method is considered to be the use of various types of screens, covering their hottest parts and putting various gaseous mixtures into the exhaust, which decrease the intensity of IR radiation or change its spectrum. In so doing, they are trying to preclude or reduce the degree of IR radiation in the most widely utilized missile guidance heads in the 3-5 mkm wave band.

The task of screening IR radiation has turned out to be highly complex since, during the development of the screens, it was necessary to consider their influence on the aircraft's aerodynamic properties and the potential increase in its RCS. One of the solutions in this area is believed to be the proposal to use moveable screens in the air intakes and engine nozzles.

Judging by foreign press reports, the work on the STEALTH program not only does not exclude the process of perfecting EW devices, but on the contrary, adds several new dimensions to it. The first consequence of adopting the program was the U.S. Defense Department's requirement to abandon suspended containers for aircraft radioelectronic suppression equipment in favor of equipment built into the fuselage. The second aspect is, the incorporation of phased array antennas into EW equipment. And finally, it is believed that future EW systems' combat capabilities can be increased sufficiently easily, as new systems belonging to the likely enemy appear.

This fact speaks to the complexity of work on the STEALTH program. In 1982, the English firm Ferranti reported that it had developed a method for the automatic system analysis of radiotechnical and weather reconnaissance data on board the aircraft for overcoming air defenses and for the purpose of determining anamolies in the propagation of radar signals. The results of such analysis can be used by the aircraft's crew for secret flight through the radar's operating zone. Specialists of the firm state that although they employ such a method under specific weather conditions, its utilization in combination with other resources and methods can significantly increase the effectiveness in overcoming air defenses.

The STEALTH program is a clear example of the aggressive trends in the development of science and technology in imperialistic countries. The stakes of taking the lead in one of these highly expensive fields to perfect the means of armed conflict costs the American taxpayers, according to the acknowledgement of the foreign press, an enormous sum, assessed by various sources to be form $1 to $10 billion. At the same time, according to many foreign specialists, the STEALTH program, as any other attempt to develop the "absolute" weapon, cannot justify all the hopes which the Pentagon places on it.

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INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

MOSCOW HITS ROGERS COMMENT ON INF REDUCTIONS

LD131154 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 13 May 86

[Viktor Levin Commentary]

[Text] Supreme Allied Commander of NATO troops in Europe, the U.S. General Rogers, in an interview with the West German newspaper WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE, has demanded of the United States' partners an increase in their contribution to the West's military efforts. Answering a question about the Soviet peace proposals, Rogers called them propaganda. Here is Viktor Levin at the microphone.

[Levin] Rogers' interview with the WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE newspaper does not sparkle with originality--that is, not to speak at all of its conclusiveness. But nevertheless there is one revelation in it which in my view deserves attention. This is the matter of the position of a high-ranking U.S. general on the question of reduction of medium-range nuclear weapons. It is known that the Soviet Union has put forward new proposals aimed at fully ridding the whole European continent of these weapons. These proposals take into account those ideas which were earlier expressed by the United States. In Western Europe the Soviet initiative has provoked huge interest and has been assessed highly, but the United States is clearly trying to get out of answering them. In these conditions the West German newspaper put the question straight to Rogers as to whether he sees a real prospect for ridding Europe of medium-range nuclear weapons. In his answer--and I quote word for word from the WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE--the general is raising the stakes to an almost unreachable level. Specifically, this is what he said: If the Soviet Union scraps its operational-tactical missiles in addition to the SS-20 missiles, if it shows its readiness to go for substantial balanced reduction of conventional armed forces, then in that case--as I think--said Rogers, we could seriously think about eliminating Pershing-1l and Cruise missiles. In other words, let the Soviet Union, says the supreme commander of NATO troops, disarm unilaterally, and we in NATO will consider what to do later after this.

The WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE, as I have already said, thinks that Rogers is raising the stakes to an almost unattainable level. I think it has been put rather lightly: more precisely, he has set them so high that it would be impossible to top the stakes. The U.S. general does not even want to hear of any real reduction in weapons--that is the essence of his answer. And this is by no means the personal opinion of Rogers alone: this is precisely how they think in Washington.

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INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

IZVESTIYA CRITICIZES NATO SCG STATEMENT

PM091014 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent V. Antonov: "NATO: The Same Old Ragbag"]

[Text] Brussels--A NATO Special Consultative Group (SCG) session has been held at North Atlantic bloc headquarters in Evere.

A communique circulated here notes that the session was devoted to a discussion of problems pertaining to medium-range nuclear armaments in Europe in connection with the latest round of the Soviet-U.S. nuclear and space armaments talks starting in Geneva.

Numerous foreign journalists assembled at a press conference in Evere after the SCG session and tried to get the organizers to provide specific clarification of the NATO allies' position on the matter. But once again they were presented with unfounded theses about the United States and its Atlantic partners allegedly seeking "constructive dialogue" at the talks, whereas the USSR is apparently not interested in achieving mutually acceptable solutions.

It is clear from what A. Holmes, director of the U.S. State Department Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs, who chaired the SCG session, said, that the U.S. side intends to stick to the so-called "zero option" in the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles. That option is backed by the NATO allies and envisages effectively eliminating Soviet nuclear facilities on the USSR's European territory while keeping a considerable part of the U.S. nuclear missile arsenal in Western Europe. He said, in particular, that no new elements have appeared in the U.S. position on the eve of the resumption of the talks. In other words, the U.S. delegation is going to Geneva with the same old ragbag of proposals that have already been rejected by the Soviet Union in that they violate the principle of the sides' equality and identical security.

The unconstructive approach by the United States and its Atlantic partners to the problem of reaching concrete accords is also evidenced by the fact that the NATO countries' representatives in the SCG have reaffirmed the need to continue the planned deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. As A. Homes noted, the Pentagon has completed the deployment of 108 Pershing-2 missiles in the FRG, as envisaged by the NATO plan. At the same time, the deployment of cruise missiles is in full swing at air bases in Britain, the FRG, Belgium, and Italy.

The SCG session in Evere graphically revealed the true tasks assigned to it by the United States and NATO. Basically they consist in misleading the West's true aims in the nuclear arms control sphere by trying to justify the Atlanticists' adherence to the dangerous course of building up military preparations in Western Europe.

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INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

TASS CRITICIZES UK GOVERNMENT 'WHITE PAPER' ON DEFENSE

LD131004 Moscow TASS in English 0935 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] London, May 13, TASS--TASS correspondent Nikolay Pakhamov reports:

The British Conservative government, following in the wake of Washington's aggressive policy, continues to increase military expenditures and step up militarist preparations. A record-high sum--almost 18,500 million pounds sterling--is to be allocated for the British military establishment in the 1986-1987 financial year. This is stated in the government's "white paper" on defense expenditures. The compilers of the document which was issued here today stated that by the level of military expenditures Britain "is ahead of" all the other NATO partners, except the United States. Appropriations for the purposes have grown by 3,000 million pounds sterling as compared with the 1978-79 financial year when the Conservatives took office.

The "white paper" discourses a good deal about an "urgent necessity" to improve East-West relations and about a "firm commitment" of NATO countries, including Britain, to the cause of achieving progress at the arms control talks. However, behind this verbiage, there is a lack of London's desire to take concrete steps which would contribute to curbing the arms race, to lowering the level of military confrontation and to easing international tension.

The authors of the document emphasise that nuclear arms will remain an "integral part" of NATO's military strategy in the entire foreseeable future and that NATO also intends to go ahead with "upgrading conventional armed forces." The British Government has staced determination to go on "modernizing" its so-called "independent" nuclear deterrent force. The "white paper" expresses support for the U.S. obstructionist stand at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on nuclear and space arms, and simultaneously rejects the constructive Soviet peace initiatives on the plea that their realisation would ostensibly "keep Soviet superiority" in the military field. The doucment contains untenable allusions to the "difficulty of verification problems" to justify the USA's and Britain's refusal to follow the USSR's example and to take constructive steps toward banning all nuclear explosions and eliminating the stocks of chemical arms. The British Government has reaffirmed its intention to continue to participate in the implementation of Washington's space militarisation plans.

As is clear from the "white paper," the British Government continues to go on faithfully meeting its "commitment" within NATO framework. The "white paper" expresses support for the continued presence of the U.S. Armed Forces in British territory and for the deployment of new U.S. first-strike nuclear-missile weaponry in Western Europe. The Tory cabinet endeavours to justify its militarist course by alluding, as usual, to a mythical "Soviet threat" which has allegedly hung over the West. This hackneyed device which London has borrowed from Washington has long been used by the Tories to delude the public and to put facts upside down.

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CSO: 5200/1372

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

TASS HITS U.S.-JAPANESE MANEUVERS, CRUISE MISSILES

LD151722 Moscow TASS in English 1654 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Moscow, May 15, TASS--TASS Political News Analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

The U.S. military do not cease efforts aimed at heightening tension in the Asian-Pacific region. As is reported from Tokyo, Washington has notified Japan of a decision to hold exercises of a naval task force led by the battleship New Jersey near Soviet shores in summer this year.

Escorted by 10 other ships, including a cruiser, the battleship armed with 32 Tomahawk cruise missiles and other up-to-date armament will set out from the port of Yokosuka, heading for one of the areas of the Sea of Japan, near the Soviet port of Vladivostok, where the exercises are to take place.

As has already been the case in the past, the U.S. administration, not limiting itself to holding the exercises of its own naval force near the Soviet shores, intends to draw Japanese Armed Forces into them. The Japanese ASAHI SHIMBUN newspaper points out that the United States insists on the holding of exercises in the Sea of Japan jointly with the ships and aircraft of the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces," the exercises which are regarded as a kind of 'reconnaissance in force'. One has to point out that in Japan's National Defense Agency one can find figures who would not mind playing up to the U.S. belicose circles in staging yet another military provocation against the USSR. They, for example, are expressing the view that the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" may "partially" take part in the exercises. ASAHI SHIMBUN admits that the exercises, in which the U.S. nuclear-tipped Tomahawk missiles are to play the role of a 'knife' put against the throat of the Soviet Union, are of extremely provocative character with regard to it.

The newspaper points out, in particular, that the Tomahawk missiles, having a range of 2,700 km, are quite capable of reaching areas deep in the interior of Siberia.

As it is seen, the U.S. military once again intend to put to test the strength of Soviet defences. It is not for the first year already that Washington stages its militarist shows near the Soviet Far East. THE LOS ANGELES TIMES newspaper pointed out in an editorial about an exercise codenamed "Fleetex" that that purpose of the exercise was to induce some reaction of Soviet submarines and aircraft 'so that it could be possible to evaluate the tactics and capabilities of the Russians in such situations'. Paul McCarthy, the commander

of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, for his part, confirms the aggressiveness of U.S. intentions in the area. He has stated, for example, that the forces under his authority are preparing for the blockading of international straits in the Far East and for combat patrolling of the Sea of Japan should the situation become complicated.

But, as is shown by U.S.-South Korean and U.S.-Japanese exercises and finally by multilateral military exercises held in the area one after another under U.S. aegis, it is precisely, the United States that complicates the situation there. It is the USA that encroaches upon the interests of the Soviet Union by making attempts to feel its borders now from the sea now from the air. It is the United States that stages a simulated 'military clash near Soviet waters'. The pilot of one of Phantom F-4 fighter bombers based on the aircraft carrier Midway has said about the simulation that that was the greatest approximation to real war that one can imagine. He said it seemed for him for a long time that that was not a simulated battle but a real one. Incidentally, it was precisely during that exercise that aircraft of the Japanese Air Force, fully armed with Sidewinder missiles, were made airborne for a 'demonstration of solidarity'.

In our nuclear age when the world is already sagging under the burden of 50,000 nuclear munitions made as of today, it is of particular importance to show mutual restraint and high responsibility and to prevent actions which could set into motion the entire potential which is ruinous to everything living on earth. The exercises which the United States is arranging with a possible participation of Japanese ships and aircraft lead in a diametrically opposite direction.

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INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

SOVIET REPORTS ON FRENCH NUCLEAR SYSTEMS

New Missiles, Bombers

PM011048 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Apr 86 Second Edition p 3

[V. Pustov article: "Changes Expected"]

[Excerpt] In connection with the new correlation of political forces in France and the creation of a government of representatives of right-wing parties, questions connected with building up and improving the might of the French Armed Forces are being discussed widely inside and outside the country. The prevailing opinion among observers is that France's stance with regard to the creation and targeting of nuclear arms, the so-called "European defense community," and the NATO bloc will not undergo any substantial changes.

It is expected that questions will be decided more promptly in favor of building a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier and creating a new Hades missile with a nuclear warhead and a range of more than 300 km. The present French Government, the American weekly DEFENSE NEWS writes, advocates replacing the single-charge, silo-housed S3 missiles and obsolescent Mirage IV bombers with a medium-range mobile Mirved ballistic missile.

According to a report in the newspaper L'HUMANITE, in May French strategic aircraft will be armed with the new ASMP missile that has a nuclear charge with a yield several times greater than that of the atom bomb which the Americans dropped on Hiroshima. This missile can also be equipped with a neutron or a chemical charge.

New Cruise Missile

LD111500 Moscow TASS in English 1916 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Paris, May 9, TASS--A new nuclear-tipped medium-range cruise missile of the air-to-surface ASMP class was added to the French strategic forces.

The weapon, the yield of the nuclear warhead of which is 15 times that of the atomic bomb dropped by the USA on Hiroshima, is to be carried by the modified Mirage-4 bomber.

The new missile was developed under a broad program launched by France to modernize its nuclear force. This year about one-third of the total military budget of more than 158 billion francs will be used for the purpose. Last year France floated its sixth atomic-powered submarine carrying nuclear-tipped missiles and recently another atomic-powered submarine, the "Emeraude," was launched. According to the French press, work is going ahead full steam on the modernization of tactical nuclear weapons.

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INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

TASS REPORTS ON DUTCH, BELGIAN DEVELOPMENT

Netherlands Readying Facilities

LD110442 Moscow TASS in English 2021 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Text] The Hague, April 10, TASS--The ruling right-of-centre coalition in Holland is accelerating preparations for the deployment of 48 American cruise missiles in the country, scheduled for the autumn of 1988. A government spokesman has said that a decision had been made on the construction of a missile base near the town of Woendsrecht in the south of the country. Defence Minister Jacob de Ruiter has sent a letter to parliament officially informing it that the construction of launching pads, command posts, fuel storages and ammunition depots is to be started soon. This means transition to the realisation in practice of the American-Dutch agreement on the terms of deploying cruise missiles concluded despite protests by the progressive public and contrary to the will of the majority of the population.

Belgium Hopes for Agreement

LD121953 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Brussels, May 12, TASS--TASS correspondent Albert Balebanov reports:

Belgium's Minister of Foreign Affairs Leo Tindermanns in an interview to the Flemish newspaper STANDAARD has said, in reply to the question on prospects of attaining an agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe:

"Conclusion of an agreement on medium-range missiles is not impossible. I hope that this will take place yet before the fateful date for deployment of additional missiles in our country. There is a change witnessed in the USSR's stand. Yet until recently the Soviet Union considered it impossible to enact a separate agreement and demanded that a global agreement be concluded first. But some 'stumbling blocks' are still there: Soviet missiles deployed in Asia and independent nuclear forces of Britain and France. Some specialists believe that we cannot withdraw missiles since the USSR has an advantage over the West in conventional armaments. Belgium, however, in the course of the meetings within the Western European Union framework declared for the West to continue abiding by its own proposals which were put forward not so long ago, including the zero option."

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INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

SOVIET JOURNAL ASSESSES DUTCH DEBATE OVER DEPLOYMENT

Moscow MIROVAYA EKONOMIKA I MEZHDUNARODNYYE OTNOSHENIYA in Russian No 2, Feb 86 (signed to press 14 Jan 86) pp 93-96

[Article by K. Andreyev: "The Netherlands Faced With a Choice"]

[Excerpts] The year of 1985 was one of a difficult decision for the Netherlands. For 6 years the country's governments, which had been replacing one another, had been postponing a decision on the deployment of American cruise missiles on Dutch territory, encountering the strongest resistance to this on the part of the public. The present center-right cabinet headed by R. Lubbers ultimately succumbed to Washington's pressure. But the "missile question" continues to stir the political life of the Netherlands. It has forced many Dutch to look anew at the events taking place in the world. The broad antiwar movement represents the main force of opposition to the "winged death." The number of politicians understanding the need to renounce support for NATO's militarist policy is growing also.

II

Previously Netherlands' ruling circles rejected the idea of the development of "European" military cooperation, referring to the fact that it was being exercised within the NATO Eurogroup framework. However, increasingly great attention has been paid to the question of "defense integration" recently. Defense Minister J. de Ruiter emphasized in the course of a meeting with his French colleague in June 1985 the need to stimulate the activity of the Western European Union and the Eurogroup as the "sole political and military organizations within whose framework the (West) European countries coordinate their actions in the arms sphere." As a whole, the government declares its invariable support for efforts aimed at "making the political union of the said states more dynamic."

III

The country's policy course on the European continent is determined by its participation in the EEC, and its approach to key questions of the international situation by membership of NATO. It was among the first 12 countries to sign the North Atlantic pact in 1949. In receipt of "Marshall Plan" financial-economic assistance from the United States, the Netherlands concluded a number

of agreements with Washington, which led to the country's departure from the positions of traditional neutralism. Giving priority in its foreign policy to relations with Washington, the Hague became the United States' loyal ally in Europe. In 1957 the Netherlands was the first of NATO's European participants to "welcome" the construction of stores and the deployment therein of American nuclear warheads, make bases available for the billeting of American and West German combat units and dispatch its servicemen to the "forward lines of defense" of the North Atlantic bloc. The country's ruling circles also did their bit in exacerbating international tension in the cold war years.

However, the intensification of the struggle of two opposite trends and two courses in world politics and the wide-ranging peace-loving initiatives of the socialist states could not have failed to have influenced the Netherland's approach to East-West mutual relations. Their foreign policy course came to be characterized to a greater extent by circumspection and an understanding of the danger of a further escalation of tension and an intensification of the arms race.

A coalition of the Christian Democratic Appeal (CDA) and People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (PPFD) has been in office in the Netherlands since 1982. Formed on the basis of several clerical parties, the CDA adheres to a course "somewhat right of center," while the PPFD, representing the interests of the commercial-financial haute bourgeoisie, cleaves to frankly rightwing positions.

The assumption of office by this coalition led to a certain shift to the right of certain accents in the country's foreign policy line. However, the scale of the antiwar movement (the most active in West Europe) and also the ruling circles' fear that the Washington administration's "power policy" could involve the country in an armed conflict is forcing the government to adjust its policy, particularly where "national security interests" or the country's economic position are directly affected.

The government recognizes the need for military detente, calls on the allies to pay more attention to questions of preventing a nuclear confrontation and emphasizes particularly the right recorded in Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty to members' independence in the choice of individual or collective means of defense in each individual instance.

In 1979 the Hague approved NATO's "twin decision," but made a reservation here whose essence amounted to the final decision on the deployment of 48 cruise missiles on Dutch territory depending on the outcome of the Soviet-American neogtiations on a limitation of nuclear arms in Europe. This "special position" was not, however, mentioned in the official communique of the NATO Council session (it was indicated only in the form of an appendix to one of the session's secret documents). The bloc leadership represented the "twin decision" as unanimity, which gave rise to sharp protests in the country.

A broad antiwar movement developed in Holland which embraced all strata of the population and affected to this extent or the other practically all political parties. Up to half a million persons gathered at protest demonstrations at any one time. A petition to the government demanding that American missiles

not be allowed on Dutch soil had been signed by the fall of 1985 by 4 million persons--more than half the adult population. Simultaneously there was increased pressure on the R. Lubbers government both on the part of the United States and the NATO leadership.

We would recall that governments of various political colors had on several occasions postponed a final decision on deployment of the cruise missiles on Dutch territory. On 1 June 1984 the R. Lubbers cabinet set the final date--1 November 1985--which was occasioned by the NATO deployment schedule, which provides for putting the last of the 572 intermediate-range nuclear missiles on combat alert at the end of 1988. The Hague declared here that it would make a decision depending on whether or not the number of SS-20 missiles had exceeded by November 1985 the June 1984 level. As M.S. Gorbachev declared in the speech to French members of parliament in October 1985, the Soviet Union had maintained the given level in its European zone. However, the Dutch Government illegitimately linked its decision with the total number of SS-20 missiles deployed on the entire territory of the Soviet Union. The fact that the Soviet missiles deployed in the Asian zone are totally unrelated to West Europe was ignored here.

On 1 November 1985 the government resolved to conclude with the United States an agreement on the deployment of 48 American cruise missiles at the reequipped "Wunsdrecht" Air Base. The agreement has to be approved by parliament, where members of the government coalition parties are confronted by an opposition barely inferior to it in strength headed by the country's biggest party--the Labor (social democratic) Party. The number of supporters in parliament of deployment is only slightly more than the number of its opponents, and in the light of the parliamentary elections to be held in May 1986 the outcome of the debate on the "missile question" is far from clear.

The agreement between the Netherlands and the United States has been concluded for a term of 5 years. With the other countries on whose territory the intermediate-range nuclear missiles are being deployed the term of the agreement was not specified. As J. den Uyl, leader of the social democrats, emphasized, this clause was recorded in the agreement to make the 1 November decision "binding" on the government which assumes office following the elections.

At the same time the agreement mentions the possibility of an adjustment to the number of missiles deployed or scheduled for deployment in the event of an appropraite accord being reached between the USSR and the United States. In this plane the results of the Soviet-American top-level meeting in Geneva were seen in the Netherlands as "reassuring," the agreement on accelerating the process of the arms limitation talks being highlighted particularly.

While having given in to the pressure of Washington and also a number of European NATO allies on the "missile question," the Dutch Government adopted a different position on such a most important problem as the militarization of space. In October 1985 it announced its rejection of the U.S. proposal that it participate in realization of the notorious "strategic defense initiative."

Attempting to halt the slide in the popularity of the present ruling coalition brought about by the decision on the missiles, which is contrary to the will of the majority of the population, the Lubbers government announced in November 1985 its intention to cut back somewhat on its nuclear commitments within the framework of the NATO bloc in respect of tactical nuclear arms. It was a question of refusing to employ obsolete models of nuclear warheads (bombs) on Orion patrol aircraft and F-16 fighter bombers, which run along the North Sea coast. NATO General Secretary Lord Carrington sent the country's government a letter which said that "the allies are against a cutback in Holland's assignments in the event of nuclear war." But even following this demarche the Lubbers cabinet stuck to its decision.

The Hague considers undesirable an increase by the NATO bloc in chemical weapon stocks. In 1982 the government announced that it would not equip the army with chemical weapons and prohibited the storage thereof on the country's territory. Speaking in parliament in June 1985, H. van den Broek declared that the Netherlands would not permit the United States to deploy chemical weapons on Dutch soil. He confirmed that the government advocates the conclusion of a treaty banning chemical weapons.

As far as the country's participation in the NATO program for a buildup of conventional arms (the so-called "Rogers Plan") is concerned, the Hague, citing economic difficulties, is not complying with the decision adopted by the NATO bloc in 1978 on a 3-percent annual increase in military spending in real terms. In the period 1979-1983 it grew on average by 1.5 percent, although it is planned raising this indicator to 2 percent in 1984-1986.

Summing up what has been said, it should be emphasized that, despite certain specific features of the Netherlands' military-political course, it is exercised within the framework of the general strategy of the North Atlantic alliance. West Europe, the country's official circles believe, cannot represent "a third way between the two superpowers." At the same time, however, the Hague is advocating that the West's policy in respect of the East assume "more clearly expressed European features." This should enhance the role of the small West European states and cater for their interests better, it is believed.

The Netherlands' relations with the Soivet Union have taken shape unevenly over the past several years. They experienced a certain decline caused by the Dutch Government's decision to limit bilateral relations on a variety of far-fetched pretexts. The practice of consultations along foreign ministry lines and the exchange of visits at ministerial level was suspended, and cultural ties were limited appreciably.

Recently the country's government has begun to gradually depart from this policy. A representative parliamentary delegation came to the Soviet Union in November 1983 on a working visit, and an official General Staffs (parliament) delegation visited in October 1984. Contacts at ministerial level were resumed in 1984. Foreign Minister H. van den Broek paid a visit to Moscow in April 1985. Topical questions of world politics and the prospects for the further development of bilateral relations were discussed in the course of the negotiations.

The two states' cooperation in the trade-economic and S&T spheres is developing sufficiently favorably. Reciprocal commodity exchange in 1984 constituted R1.8 billion. The Netherlands is in sixth place in the Soviet Union's trade with West European countries. Sessions of the mixed commissions on navigation and cooperation in the economic, industrial and S&T spheres and of the agriculture working group are conducted regularly. In the cultural sphere mutual relations are developing currently on the basis of the Cultural and Scientific Cooperation Program.

The "biggest of the small" West European states is an active participant in international life. The country's foreign policy course remains within the channel of the basic principles of NATO and the EEC, but has undergone a certain modification with the passage of time. The Netherlands cannot fail to realize that the international tension being spurred by reactionary imperialist circles is seriously harming the interests of small countries.

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CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

USSR: U.S. SEEKS ALLIES' AGREE[illegible]T TO BINARY-ARMS DEPLOYMENT

UK Backing Hit

LD290925 Moscow TASS in English 0738 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] London 29 Apr TASS--TASS correspondent Nikolay Pakhomov reports:

The British Government has officially confirmed its support for the U.S. plans to develop and produce a new generation of chemical weapons. Addressing the House of Commons of the British parliament, John Stanley, British minister of state, Ministry of Defence, said that the programme started by Washington for a "modernisation" of chemical weapons will contribute towards "support for the NATO's strategy of deterrence and flexible reaction."

The minister of state has echoed the unfounded inventions of his overseas colleagues about the alleged Soviet "superiority" in the field of chemical weapons. In so doing, the representative of the British war department went so far as to claim that the build-up of the arsenals of the latest chemical weapons will be useful for...the speediest reaching of an agreement on a total ban on the chemical weapons.

London has once again demonstrated that it is an obedient tool of Washington's will and supporter of all of its militaristic designs, by backing the United States plans in the field of chemical weapons. The statement by John Stanley in Parliament has touched off a storm of indignation from representatives of the political opposition. Denzil Davis, member of the Labour Party "shadow cabinet" in charge of defence and disarmament issues, demanded that the government reject the U.S. plans and stressed that their implementation would further complicate progress at the disarmament talks. David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, described the United States designs supported by Whitehall as disgusting from the moral viewpoint. Even Conservative deputy Anthony Nelson, who can by no means be considered a "pacifist", said that he was deeply concerned about the expediency of developing and accumulating the terrible new weapons of mass annihilation.

UK Public 'Alarmed'

PM091324 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Article by A. Krivopalov: "Capitulation Again?"]

[Text] London--A new danger is hanging over the British. They are threatened with the prospect of U.S. binary weapons being deployed in the British Isles under "exceptional circumstances."

While NATO representatives met in Brussels to sanction, away from the eyes of the West European public, the American plan which envisages reinforcing existing Pentagon arsenals with "sophisticated" chemical mass destruction weapons, in Albion the alarm was sounding.

Protests against the actions of the Tory government, which, ostensibly in principle, already supported Washington in this issue, sounded even within the walls of Westminister. Representatives of the parlimentary opposition demanded that official London clearly and unequivocally state that under no circumstances would it permit the deployment of American binary weapons in the British Isles.

D. Davis, defense minister in the Labor "Shadow Cabinet," decisively condemned the plan that was approved, to all appearances, by NATO circles in secret. He stressed that this project had never been discussed in British Parliament.

Davis warned: "It will cause considerable damage to NATO and will only promote the chemical arms race, which may reach the same level and intensity as the nuclear arms race."

D. Owen, leader of the Social Democrats, condemned the binary weapons plan as "reprehensible in moral respects, politically provocative, and useless from a military viewpoint."

Commentators in the British press note that the Pentagon and NATO are speeding up the implementation of the "binary program" while the USSR has put forward at the Geneva Disarmament Conference a new plan to ban chemical weapons.

Answering criticism from the opposition, a high-ranking plenipotentiary from the British Ministry of Defense tried to calm the alarmed public. He assured them that the country's government will consider its decision before giving its formal consent to the deployment of binary weapons on British territory. Promises after promises, but who can now believe them with peace of mind after what happened with the piratical U.S. attack on Libya? The Tory power conceded totally at that time to the initiators of the aggressive attack on this country's innocent cities. Are we not talking about fresh capitulation?

Danish, Dutch 'Firm Rebuff'

LD072041 Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Copenhagen, May 7 TASS--The U.S. pressure for consent to the deployment in Western Europe of new American chemical weapons meets with firm rebuff from its NATO allies.

As Danish Defense Minister Hans Engell said during a conversation withthe NATO Secretary-General Lord Carrington, who paid an unofficial visit to Copenhagen, the country's government opposes American plans of producing a new generation of chemical weapons and deploying them in Europe. He also pointed out that the Danish Government will under no circumstances agree to deploy chemical weapons in Denmark. The NATO visitor obviously disliked this position and tried to reason with the "obstinate" partner. Making a point of strengthening NATO solidarity. Lord Carrington urged NATO allies to iron out differences rather than bring them to the fore. Meantime, he called on Denmark to increase its military expenditures, and give a "low key" treatment to its position in the field of chemical weapons.

The Hague May 7 TASS -- The Netherlands turns down the U.S. dangerous plans of producing new types of chemical weapons and deploying them in Western Europe. The Dutch defense minister, Jacob de Ruiter, said in Parliament that Holland refuses to deploy these weapons on its territory and will not give permission to its Armed Forces to use them. He pointed out that he would unequivocally state the position of the Netherlands on this issue in the NATO's governing bodies. According to Jacob de Ruiter, an approval of American plans would have an adverse effect on the holding of the disarmament talks in Geneva.

Dangers Highlighted

LD082338 Moscow TASS in English 1653 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 8 TASS -- Follows commentary by TASS News Analyst Yevgeniy Yegorov:

Belgium's Defence Ministry said that four Belgian servicemen were killed as a result of an explosion of a shell filled with a chemical warfare agent. This happened on a practice ground in the area of the city of Westrozebeke at a time when army field engineers were trying to defuse a shell, which preserved since the times of the first world war. [sentence as received]

Thus, the 71-year-old shadow of death has again killed people in Western Eeurope. Chemical warfare agents were for the first time used by German troops on April 22, 1915. But that was the past, and it pales to the threat of chemical death at present.

The United States has stockpiled in Europe, chiefly on the FRG's territory, more than 10,000 tons of chemical warfare agents. Now a fresh crime is being prepared against the peoples of Europe. U.S. Congress has set aside funds for the construction of works and the production of a new type of chemical warfare agents, the so-called binary weapons. Flowline production of binary weapons -- 155 mm chemical shells and "Big eye" bombs is to be started late next year.

But already now the Pentagon is seeking consent from the West European allies of the USA and NATO to the deployment of those terrible mass destruction weapons on the territory of their countries. True, this, as they say, is a "contingency plan", but such a gimmick will hardly deceive anybody.

The permanent representatives of the North Atlantic bloc member countries have already approved these plans, which are to be examined at the NATO Military Planning Committee on May 22. Two countries -- Denmark and the Netherlands -- have resolutely opposed those plans. Serious objections have also been raised by Norway. There is strong political opposition in Britain, the FRG and a number of other countries to turning Western Europe into a "binary gas chamber".

The fresh criminal designs of the United States military explain why the United States and some of its allies are so stubbornly opposing the conclusions of a convention on a total prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons, talks on which have been underway at Geneva for many years now. The Soviet Union has put forward a programme for totally ridding Europe and the whole world of that mass destruction weapon. New Soviet proposals were tabled at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament on April 22, on a ban on chemical weapons; a statement to this effect was made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the 11th Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany in Berlin.

But NATO responds to these peaceful proposals by sinister plans for the deployment of American binary weapons in Western Europe. It is high time for them to change thier mind, or the tragedy in the Belgian city of Westrozebeke may prove to be a child's play as compared with a terrible catastrophe, which the Pentagon, assisted by the leaders of a number of NATO member countries, above all Britain and the FRG, is preparing for the peoples of Europe.

U.S. Continues Pressure

LD112031 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 11 May 86

[Vladimir Pasko commentary]

[Text] DPA reports on the Bundestag session scheduled for 15 May, which is to discuss the stationing of new U.S. chemical weapons on the country's territory. The same issue is to be debated by the British Parliament within the next few days. The debates will be held at the demand of the opposition parties on the threshold of the conference of NATO defense and foreign ministers, at which the Americans intend to obtain official backing for their latest militarist plan.

Our commentator Vladimir Pasko is at the microphone.

Washington is striving to get permission from its allies to station new toxic combat weapons on their territory. According to the press, it is, specifically, a matter of 40,000 bombs and 500,000 howitzer shells filled with nerve-paralyzing substances and set up on the binary principle.

American concerns have already received orders for these weapons from the Pentagon, but Congress has decreed that they should be stationed anywhere suitable but not on U.S. territory. This requirement is the reason for the pressure now being applied to its NATO partners by Washington. The partners have greeted the idea from across the

ocean without enthusiasm. The British ECONOMIST noted a few days ago that the governments of the West European countries which regard chemical weapons with particular revulsion because of the consequences of their use during World War I, may be tempted to instruct their ministers to vote against the U.S. plan. The countries referred to in this regard include in particular Denmark, the Netherlands, and Italy. Nor does the FRG have any zeal for them. According to the newspapers, only Britain's Conservative government intends to approve the U.S. actions, and then only secretly -- in other words behind the backs of the people.

In view of the situation, the NATO leaders are attempting to convince the West Europeans that American binary shells and bombs will allegedly provide them with additional security. Against the background of the latest Soviet initiatives these claims look, to put it mildly, unconvincing.

May I remind you that in putting forward a program for the elimination of mass-strike weapons by the year 2000 the Soviet Union also proposed the elimination of all chemical weapons together with the industrial base for their manufacture. The United States has ignored these proposals in favor of its military business and to the detriment of Europe. Western Europe realizes the danger of the overseas plans but, as events show, is still not ready to give them a rebuff. It plainly does not have sufficient political will. Meanwhile, time is not waiting, and the Americans have already transformed Europe into a dangerous dump for their weapons.

'Comparable to Nuclear Weapons'

LD121458 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 12 May 86

[Aleksandr Pogodin commentary]

[Text] International news agencies report the NATO countries are to spell out their position shortly in view of the American planned production of binary chemical weapons and their deployment in Western Europe. A commentary has been prepared by Aleksandr Pogodin.

In terms of their kill, experts say binary weapons are comparable to nuclear weapons. The United States would like to flood the NATO countries in Europe with new weapons of mass annihilation. If the region is turned into a theater of fatal chemical warfare civilians will inevitably become the main victims. The United States clearly hopes to ward off a strike of retaliation from its territory and place the territory and population of its allies under a strike of this kind. It's quite natural that the American plans have drawn no support from a number of NATO countries. REUTER comments by saying that what makes the NATO task more difficult is this: The Soviet chemical weapons initiatives have drawn an understanding view from many European nations. These proposals provide for scrapping both these weapons and the industrial facilities involved in their production. The Soviet Union has suggested a concrete schedule for ridding our planet of chemical weapons by the end of the century. Its proposals put special emphasis on the need to work out measures to monitor action on a corresponding agreement including systematic, international, on-site inspection. Start comparing the two positions and you can see who is in favor of stemming the chemical war threat and who is pressing to inflate this threat .

FRG's 'Secret' Decision

LD122006 Moscow TASS in English 1915 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS -- TASS Political News Analyst Aleksey Grigoryev writes:

"To be or not to be: That is the question". FRG politicians now again pretend to be agonizing over the need to make a decision. Earlier, feigning uncertainty for a while, the West German authorities, however, joined in the sinister 'star wars' programme of the USA. The deployment of a horrible type of chemical weapons, binary weapons, in the FRG is now in the order of the day. And again, the decision, taken secretly in the Bonn corridors of power, is for the time being concealed from the public of the FRG and other countries by the smokescreen of various vague statements. The FRG Government resorts to the tactic of keeping back the truth and spreading half-truths or falsehoods and in every way avoids giving answers to questions posed by Social Democrats, also in the Bundestag. This is how the essence of the pretentions at casting about for the decision in Bonn is assessed by a prominent leader of the SDPG [Social Democratic Party of Germany], chairman of the working section of the parliamentary group of the party on foreign policy matters, Karsten Voigt.

Hermann Scheer, expert of the parliamentary group of the party on disarmament matters, speaks with concern about the fresh escalation of the chemical arms race into which the FRG has been involved. He writes in a press bulletin of the SDPG that this fact cannot be refuted by any official statements, that there is agreement between Bonn and Washington not to deploy U.S. binary weapons in the FRG without the consent of the FRG Government. As doubtful, in the opinion of the Social Democratic member of parliament, is the assertion of representatives of the ruling coalition that new chemical weapons will not be deployed in the FRG in peacetime at all. It is doubtful if only for the reason that components of those weapons can be delivered from the USA to depots prepared in the FRG in advance within only ten hours.

Huge stockpiles of chemical weapons, enough to poison the entire population of Europe, have been kept at U.S. ammunition dumps near Fischbach, Rhienland-Palatinate, over many years. Peace champions in the FRG continue their protests against this horrible source of danger in the heartland of the old world.

The idea of creating in Europe a zone free from chemical weapons, worked out jointly by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the Social Democratic Party of Germany is valuable and constructive. New large-scale proposals aimed at ridding humanity of chemical weapons were advanced at the Geneva conference on disarmament by the Soviet Union. Social Democratic Karsten Voigt on behalf of his party urged the cabinet of Helmut Kohl to follow the example of the Netherlands Government and to declare firmly to the United States that he rejects the production of binary weapons and will not allow their deployment in the FRG.

Bonn answers these calls, demands and proposals with ambiguous statements and absolutely unambiguous actions. The REUTER agency reports with a reference to governmental sources in Bonn that it is hoped in the circles of the ruling coalition CDU [Christian Democratic Union] - CSU [Christian Social Union] - Free Democratic Party that Washington's West European allies will approve of the agreement between the USA and the FRG on the production and deployment of the new kind of chemical weapons. By all indications, the lot has already been cast and debates on the question of binary weapons to be held in the West German Bundestag on May 15 are putting a good face on the matter. It can be recalled in this connection that several days before the

parliamentary debates in November 1983 on the deployment of U.S. first-strike nuclear weapons in the FRG, components of the first "Pershing-2" missiles had already been brought to the U.S. air base at Ramstein from the USA.

There is perhaps no other government in Western Europe that would be supporting the U.S. militaristic programmes with such zeal. "The man took it into his head that in any question of importance he must not deviate from what President Reagan regards as right", this is what former FRG chancellor, Chairman of the SDPG Willy Brandt said about present chancellor of the FRG, Chairman of the CDU Helmut Kohl. One cannot but agree with this assessment.

FRG Agreement Assailed

LD141543 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1045 GMT 14 May 86

[Commentary by Political Observer Aleksey Grigoryev]

[Text] Moscow, 14 May, (TASS) -- So, what was secret has become reality. The accord that U.S. President Reagan and FRG Chancellor Kohl reached at the "Big Seven" meeting in Tokyo regarding the production and deployment of new generation binary chemical weapons has been confirmed at yesterday's session of the FRG Federal Security Council. As a REUTER correspondent reported from Bonn, the session, which was under the chairmanship of the head of the West German Government, adopted a "key decision" that opens the path to the diplomat of U.S. binary weapons in Western Europe, first and foremost in the FRG.

The flywheel of a new arms race is, to all appearances, gaining speed. As the West German DPA agency writes, "parliamentarians on both sides of the Atlantic in the near future have to discuss the monstrous, unimaginable specter of chemical warfare in Europe." On 15 May, debates on this question will be held in the FRG Bundestag. Similar discussions will be held in the House of Commons of the British Parliament also. Observers consider the decisive dates regarding this question to be 22 May, when defense ministers of NATO member-countries meet in Brussels; and 29 May, when foreign ministers of those states meet in Halifax, Canada. It is from these meetings that the final "go-ahead" is expected for the production of binary weapons in the United States, since the U.S. Congress is consenting to allocate the appropriate funds only on the condition that Washington's NATO partners permit the sotckpiling of the new generation combat toxins on their territory.

Once more a propaganda spectacle is being played out with the aim of giving some kind of "respectability" to the "monstrous specter of chemical warfare." Official Washington is making assurances that the mass of its chemical weapons deployed in Western Europe, mainly in the FRG, is already "obsolete" and needs renewing. But official Bonn declares that the removal of the old armaments will be completed by 1992, and that the new generation combat toxins will be delivered and deployed in the FRG only in "crisis situations" and only with the consent of the West German Government.

This subterfuge can only deceive those who wish to be deceived. In the FRG today the places for the deployment of binary weapons are being openly named -- the U.S. military depots near Pirmasens, Hanau, Allgaeu, and Mannheim. The sad lesson of the distribution [dislokatsiya] of U.S. first-strike weapons has not been lost on the Europeans.

So the parliamentary opposition in the persons of the SPD [Social Democratic Party] and Green Party is resolutely objecting to the production of the binary weapons and their deployment in the FRG. That is why the Governments of the Netherlands and Denmark are refusing the "gift" from across the ocean.

As you know, the USSR has proposed saving the planet from mass destruction weapons in this century, including chemical weapons, and made concrete initiatives on this question at the Geneva Disarmament Conference. Our country attaches special importance to the idea of creating in Europe a zone free of chemical weapons. It is against talks on this subject, against drafting an international convention on an all-embracing ban on chemical weapons, that Washington's plans to embark on producing binary changes and deploying them in Western Europe are directed. Bonn, too, shares responsibility for this dangerous course.

NATO Planning Committee Approval

LD161639 Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Brussels May 16 TASS -- The NATO military-political bloc strongly pressed by the USA has approved the Reagan administration's dangerous militarist plans on "modernizing" U.S. arsenals of chemical weapons. These plans provide for production in the USA of the latest generation of chemical mass destruction weapons -- binary shells with nerve gas to be deployed in Western Europe. This "decision in principle" was adopted at yesterday's closed special meeting of the NATO Defence Planning Committee.

According to the BELGA NEWS AGENCY, representatives of the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway and Greece opposed these plans of the Pentagon. The Belgian delegation did not voice its final say on the above problem. The reason is that differences on U.S. plans emerged inside the ruling coalition in the country.

Danger to FRG Seen

LD161824 Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 16 TASS--TASS Political News Analyst Aleksey Grigoryev writes:

FRG Defence Minister Manfred Woerner is firm as the service regulations [as received]: Bonn says "yes" to the production of binary weapons in the USA, the minister said at the debates in the Bundestag on the question of the latest chemical weapons. What he has said shows that the CDU [Christian Democratic Union]/CSU [Christian Social Union]-Free Democratic Party coalition ruling on the [as received] Bonn supports the U.S. sinister plans and is actually prepared, following Pershing-2 and cruise missiles, to deploy binary artillery shells and "Big Eye" aviation bombs on the West German territory. The reservations made by the war minister himself and other members of cabinet about this obvious readiness of official Bonn hardly deserve to be taken seriously.

It is said that 10,000 tons of "obsolete" chemical ammunition that is kept at four U.S. depots in the FRG and that can poison entire Europe now will be taken out of the country by 1992. But is not Washington intending to replace "obsolete" chemical weapons with the latest ones, for whose manufacture the Congress has already decided to appropriate 160 million dollars and intends to add 318 million dollars? Does not the U.S. Administration intend to get consent for the deployment of binary weapons from all its West European allies? It is known that precisely for this purpose chief of the Pentagon Caspar Weinberger will arrive for a meeting of defence ministers of the NATO member-countries in Brussels on May 22.

True, it was said in the Bundestag that U.S. binary weapons are to be deployed in the FRG "not in peace time but only in emergencies", and then with the consent of the Bonn government. But do not the examples of Libya, Nicaragua and other countries indicate Washington's striving to create crisis situations in various areas of the world? Expert on disarmament of the parliamentary group of the SDP [Social Democratic Party] Hermann Scheer holds that given a will, components of binary charges can be airlifted across the Atlantic to the FRG within only ten hours. As to the consent of the FRG Government, it already now fully supports the beginning of the production of new horrible weapons in the USA and agrees to their deployment in its own country. And only a month ago, in April, Chancellor Helmut Kohl solemnly promised at a press conference in Bonn that there will be no deployment of new binary chemical shells on the FRG territory...

It is not accidental that this policy of the ruling bloc came up against a sharp criticism from the parliamentary opposition -- the SDP and the Greens Party, and also against stormy indignation in various sections of the West German population.

The Soviet Union, as is known, proposed that the globe be rid of weapons of mass destruction, including chemical weapons, in this century and advanced concrete initiatives to this effect at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament. But the U.S. ruling circles and their most zealous ally -- the CDU/CSU-Free Democratic Party in Bonn -- continue putting additional obstacles in this sphere to the development and deepening of the East-West dialogue, that proceeds with difficulty as it is.

FRG Opposition Noted

LD160905 Moscow TASS in English 0730 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Bonn May 16 TASS -- The West German Government and the CDU/CSU [Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union] bloc forming it fully back U.S. plans to produce a new barbarous type of chemical weapons, binary munitions. Eager to please Washington, they intend to forgo the security interests of their own country and are prepared with certain reservations to make its territory available for the deployment of these U.S. chemical warfare agents.

This has been demonstrated by Bundestag debates on chemical weapons. Speaking there Defense Minister Manfred Woerner (CDU) declared that Bonn says 'yes' to the manufacture of binary munitions in the United States.

Keen to allay public concern, he claimed, however, that the new U.S. chemical weapons will not be sited in Western German territory "in peacetime" and that their deployments will only be carried out "in a crisis" and "in agreement" with the Bonn government.

Woerner and other members of the ruling coalition during the debates made stock claims of "Soviet superiority" in the field to justify their posture.

The debates showed that Bonn has yielded to U.S. pressure. Chancellor Helmut Kohl, speaking at a news conference in Bonn as recently as last April, said "there will no deployments of new binary chemical shells in the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany."

Bonn's present position has been sharply criticized by members of the parliamentary opposition from the Social Democratic Party [SDP] and the "Greens" Party.

The Government's expressed approval of binary weapons production in the United States "opens the door to a new spiral in the arms race", said Karsten Voigt, the SDP faction's expert on foreign policy. He spoke out for setting up a chemical-weapons-free zone in central Europe. This, Karsten said, could mark the first step to ridding mankind of the chemical threat.

Another member of the SDP faction, Hermann Scheer, said Bonn's position "makes more probable the use of weapons of mass annihilation in Europe."

Egon Bahr, a member of the SDP board, said the decision to start the production of chemical weapons in the United States torpedoes Geneva talks on disarmament.

MP Torsten Lange of the "Greens" party said the West German Government is becoming an accomplice in the new round of the arms race. Government spokesmen's claims that the United States is prepared to remove part of chemical warfare agents from West German territory "in order to promote disarmament," he said, are nothing more than a propaganda ploy. What is meant, he said, is removing only obsolete weapons whose place will then be taken by new, more modern and dangerous chemical warfare agents.

'First-Strike Weapon'

LD191706 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1515 GMT 19 May 86

["A Ban on Chemical Weapons": Commentary by TASS Observer Vladimir Matyash]

[Text] Moscow, 19 May (TASS) -- John Stanley, UK minister of state for defense, said on television that U.S. binary chemical weapons might be sited in Britain even in peacetime. At a time of tension, he said, it is important to have a suitable means of deterrent at one's disposal, even if that means new chemical weapons. Such a statement, phrased in an overtly militarist spirit, can only be evaluated as evidence of the country being subject to Washington's aggressive, imperialist course in the international arena.

The intention of official London is another dangerous step by the Conservative cabinet that does not miss any opportunity to reaffirm its feelings of loyalty toward the United States or to display unconditional support for the White House's militaristic course. Specific proof of this is the Tories' adherence to the star wars program, the siting of "cruise death" and Pershing-2 missiles on British soil, and permission to U.S. Air Force planes to take off from bases on British territory for the barbaric bombing of sovereign Libya. Such actions by the Thatcher government deprive Great Britain of freedom of action in formulating foreign policy. These incidents come as a blow to the independent status of Britain which is increasingly becoming the U.S. obedient ally; and they create an enormous threat to the cause of world peace.

Plans for production of new chemical weapons in the United States were recently endorsed by the NATO Military Planning Committee under powerful pressure from Washington despite opposition from a number of West European states. The White House is doing all it can to force the U.S. Congress to adopt a decision by 1 October 1986 to allocate funds to produce binary weapons.

According to NATO military doctrine, chemical weapons are allocated the role of first-strike weapons. Implementation of the NATO decision on production and siting of the new types of chemical weapons in Western Europe would mean a plain violation of the most important provisions of the joint Soviet-U.S. summit level statement in Geneva. It would also upset the military-strategic equilibrium in Europe and worldwide, and would greatly hamper talks in Geneva between the USSR and United States on arms limitation.

The U.S. plans were criticized at a meeting held recently in Prague between representatives of the CPCZ, the German SED, and the SPD [Social Democratic Party of Germany], who came out with an initiative for creating a zone free of such weapons in Europe. This could undoubtedly foster the cessation of the buildup of chemical weapons and lead to their elimination because the siting of binary weapons in West European countries threatens to turn the heavily populated countries of the continent into a potential theater for a ruinous chemical war, in which the civilian population would be the chief victim.

The USSR condemns the plans for the production and siting of binary chemical weapons. There is a renewed affirmation of the USSR's constructive stand in the proposals announced by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his speech at the 11th SED Congress on 18 April. The essence of these proposals is to immediately ban and destroy chemical weapons under the strictest controls, including international on-site inspection. The new Soviet proposals are clear affirmation of the fact that the USSR's words are not divorced from its practical deeds. The next step is up to those who are holding up progress in talks on chemical weapons on invented pretexts, first and foremost the United States.

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CSO: 5200/1368

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

USSR: CPCZ, SED, SPD REPRESENTATIVES ON CW-FREE ZONE

CSSR Representative Cited

LD132034 Moscow TASS in English 2006 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Prague May 13 TASS -- Representatives of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (KSC), the Socialist Unity party of Germany (SED) and Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) held a meeting here today. It was attended by Vasil Bilak, a member of the Presidium and secretary of the KSC Central Committee, Hermann Axen, a member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the SED Central Committee, and Egon Bahr, a member of the SPD Board and Presidium, deputy to the West German Bundestag. The sides exchanged information and views on the establishment of a zone free from chemical weapons in Europe.

Speaking at a news conference here, the representatives of the three parties informed newsmen about its results. The sides, Vasil Bilak said, are unanimous in the opinion that now it is more important than ever before to head off the further build-up of chemical arsenals, the production and deployment of binary shells in some Western European countries. The U.S. Administration is doing everything to make the U.S. Congress pass the decision, by October 1, 1986, on the allocation of funds for the production of binary weapons.

There exists a real threat that meetings of NATO ministers in May will pass such decisions which would open up the road toward the production of binary weapons and their storage in Western Europe. According to the available data, it is planned to deploy 40,000 air bombs and 500,000 shells for 155-mm howitzers. Under NATO's military doctrine chemical weapons are assigned the role of nearly first-strike weapons. People and governments of Western Europe countries should do everything to prevent that from happening.

Those who argue that binary weapons are less dangerous than nuclear arms are deliberately misleading the people, Vasil Bilak went on to say.

Considering all these factors, he said, the SED, the SPD and the KSC, and also the Governments of the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia set forth the initiative on establishing in Europe a zone free from chemical weapons. The heads of government of the G.D.R. and Czechoslovakia sent the proposal to Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany to open talks on setting up such a zone. The talks could result in the adoption of a joint agreement to which other European countries could accede. Such a step would not only promote enhanced European security, it would promote stronger universal peace. All Warsaw Treaty member-states unanimously support that initiative.

Our meeting was held at the time when the threat of accumulation of chemical weapons in Europe has grown dramatically. This is why we set forth the initiative on the establishment in Europe of a zone free from such weapons, Egon Bahr said. This could lead to the termination of all forms of buildup of the means of chemical warfare and to their subsequent elimination. Our proposal is equally acceptable to the East and the West, because it does not damage the security of either side. Our joint initiative is a component part of the general effort to achieve universal disarmament.

We urge the neighboring countries -- Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Poland and Hungary -- to join our initiative.

Aware of our responsibility before the people, we consider it to be our duty to keep the public informed about most important problems of the present day, Hermann Axen said. On May 22 NATO defense ministers will gather in Burssels to take a decision on the production and deployment of new types of weapons in Western Europe. On May 29-30 NATO foreign ministers will be discussing possibilities for the production of chemical mass annihilation weapons. This could become a fateful step in preparations for nuclear war, in the intensification of the arms race. NATO's decision on the production and deployment of new types of chemical weapons in Western Europe would mean a direct violation of the most important provisions of the joint Soviet-American statement made at the summit level in Geneva. This would also upset the strategic military balance in Europe and the world and would seriously complicate the Geneva talks between the U.S.S.R. and the United States on preventing the militarization of outer space. We urge the people, parliaments and political parties in Europe and the world over to thwart the attempts aimed at undermining the security of nations.

Statement Issued

LD140954 Moscow TASS in English 0853 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Prague May 14 TASS -- CTK news agency has released a statement on the results of a meeting in Prague of the representatives of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the Social Democratic Party of Germany on the issue of setting up a zone free of chemical weapons in Europe.

The statement says that the peace initiative for establishing such a zone in central Europe is exceptionally urgent now that the possibility is not excluded that the United States will start producing binary chemical weapons. In this situation it is of special importance to remove the chemical weapons arsenals from the territory of central Europe.

It is necessary that the countries, which border on the proposed zone, be suggested discussing this initiative and expressing their support for it. These countries could commit themselves not to store in their territory chemical arms which would be removed from the territories of the Federal Republic of Germany, the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia.

Besides, these countries could join an agreement on the zone free of chemical weapons and contribute towards its extension. This call is addressed to Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Denmark, Poland and Hungary.

The removal of chemical arms kept in the arsenals of the military-political alliances confronting each other in the heart of Europe is in the interests of the European people. The peace-minded forces, says the statement by the participants in the meeting, should not let this historic opportunity pass. Chemical weapons should be outlawed.

U.S., NATO Attitude Assailed

PM191459 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 May 86 First Edition p 1

[Aleksandr Matveyev "International Review": "Banning Chemical Weapons"]

[Text] A meeting of representatives of the CPCZ, the SED, and the Social Democratic Party of Germany has just finished in Prague. The question of creating a chemical weapons free zone in Europe was discussed. The sides, CPCZ Central Committee Secretary V. Bilak told journalists, were of the unanimous opinion that it is now more important than ever to prevent the stockpiling of chemical weapons arsenals and the production and siting of binary shells in certain West European countries.

The U.S. Administration, however, is doing its utmost to get Congress to appropriate funds for binary weapon production by 1 October 1986. Washington is also vigorously urging its allies to back the decision. A NATO bloc military planning session will begin work next week in Brussels. The main question under discussion will be the siting of U.S. binary combat munitions in Western Europe.

The implementation of such schemes undoubtedly threatens to turn the densely populated countries of Western Europe into potential theaters of chemical war of which the civilian population will be the main victim. In fact, the United States is playing a dishonest game, banking on diverting a counterstrike from its own territory and exposing its allies' population to it.

It is now more than 70 years since "silent death" weapons were used in World War I. Later, the Japanese militarists used chemical weapons during their aggression against China. And Washington has waged large-scale chemical warfare: First, against the Korean people and then against the countries of Indochina. Combat toxins killed many thousands of people and crippled millions.

And now the American strategists, who possess the largest stock of chemical weapons in the world, are undertaking a new program of "chemical rearmament." Talks on questions of chemical disarmament, long under way in Geneva, have been dragged out intolerably. In these circumstances, the Soviet Union has demonstrated a constructive approach to the problem. The 15 January statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, submitted quite specific proposals on drafting, at the earliest possible date, an agreement on the destruction of chemical weapons. "The Soviet Union," the statement stresses, "advocates the earliest possible complete elimination of these weapons and the industrial base for their manufacture." Demonstrating its goodwill, the Soviet Union stated its readiness to promptly announce the location of enterprises producing these weapons; halt their production; begin drawing up a procedure to destroy the corresponding production base; and also, after the agreement has come into force, begin eliminating chemical weapons.

At the end of April, the Soviet Union submitted new proposals to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. They envisage, in particular, that every state party to the convention will begin the destruction of chemical weapons within 6 months and the destruction or dismantling of installations for their manufacture within 1 year of the agreement coming into force. Our proposals pay great attention to questions of verification [kontrol]. It is proposed that systematic, international on-site inspections [proverki na mestakh] be conducted.

The new Soviet initiatives cut the ground from under those who had been trying to prove that our country is opposed to strict verification [kontrol] of the observance of the agreement. The Soviet Union is as interested as anyone in strict verification [kontrol].

Interim steps would also help radically to resolve the problem of chemical disarmament. A multilateral accord not to transfer chemical weapons to anyone whatsoever or to site them on other states' territory could be one such step.

The implementation of the Warsaw Pact states' proposals to rid the European Continent of chemical weapons could also form part of the interim measures. The implementation of the GDR-CSSR joint initiative on creating a zone free of "silent death" weapons in central Europe could also be highly beneficial.

How, then, is NATO responding? Very ambiguously. On one hand the representatives of the U.S. Administration, albeit grudgingly, are saying that the Soviet ideas on chemical disarmament are "interesting" and "merit close attention." However, in practice efforts are being made in the West to play down the acuteness of the problems of disarmament in every possible way. This approach was clearly apparent at the recent Tokyo meeting of the leading capitalist powers. Its participants expended many words leveling unproven charges of terrorism against Libya and loudly trumpeted that the Soviet Union "had not given" them information about the accident at the Chernobyl AES. But there was not a word about the most important matter: how to stop the arms race. M.S. Gorbachev stressed in his Soviet television broadcast on 14 May that "there has not been a word in response to the Soviet initiatives, to our specific proposals on halting nuclear tests, ridding mankind of nuclear and chemical weapons, and reducing conventional armaments." The participants of the conference of the "Seven" clearly wanted to exploit Chernobyl to distract the world public's attention away from problems inconvenient to them but which are real and important to the whole world. Certain NATO circles are now trying to prove altogether that negotiations and, even more so, agreements with the USSR are impossible and thus to give the go-ahead to further military preparations. It is above all those who, on the threshold of the third millennium, think in Stone Age terms and continue the fruitless search for a bigger club and a heavier stone who are intent on exploiting the situation. And, aside from nuclear weapons, binary munitions are to play the role of this club in their plans.

Why are the transatlantic generals so fond of binary weapons? These combat munitions contain two components of relatively low toxicity which combine during the shell's flight to its target, producing a lethal gas. The Pentagon claims that these combat munitions can be stored without special precautions. This means, from the Pentagon standpoint, that binary weapons will be secretly sited in the immediate proximity of socialist states and also on aircraft carriers. In short, it intends to ensure their massive use at the time of aggression.

The apologists of "silent death" are not bothered that the use of chemical weapons will result in the death of millions of civilians. U.S. and NATO military experts are only concerned with a cold calculation about these barbarous weapons' potential effectiveness. Let us remember how they rushed to Bhopal after the tragedy occurred there. And they did not go there to help the Indians poisoned by the American corporation but to study the effects of chemical weapons in a densely populated city! While dreaming about a chemical blitzkrieg and making preparations for it, the Pentagon staffers are aware that the very thought of using toxins is repugnant to any normal person. And that is why in order to secure support for "chemical rearming" among the public and, most importantly, in Congress the old refrain about the "Soviets' chemical threat" is sung year in and year out.

The slanderers do not possess any facts for the simple reason that there are none. And therefore Pentagon propagandists, both official and unofficial, are busy around the clock concocting forgeries. The U.S. Defense Department only recently paid some $1 million to retired generals whom it instructed in their capacity as "experts" to find a theoretical justification for their story of the "Soviets' chemical threat." The "theoreticians" did not think for long but simply imputed their own barbarous views of our country. And these are the conclusions they drew: "If the United States does not in the very near future create the potential for new offensive chemical weapons, it would be stupid of the Soviet Union not to use toxins against NATO forces in the next war in Europe."

It is clear that the Pentagon wants, by means of this lie, to divert the public's attention and work toward beginning the industrial production of binary weapons. And if this happens, the very question of concluding an agreement eliminating chemical weapons will be jeopardized. Problems of verification [kontrol] will become many times more complex since these weapons can be manufactured at any major chemical enterprise under the guise of production for civil purposes.

It should be noted that many of Washington's allies are greeting without enthusiasm the plans to site a new generation of "silent death" in the Old World. Only the British Government unconditionally supports the binary rearmament program. The Belgian, Netherlands, and Danish Defense Ministries have stated that the deployment of a new generation of chemical weapons on their countries' territory is impermissible. However, the U.S. representatives at the upcoming NATO bloc military planning session in Brussels will try to break the obstinate junior partners' opposition or at least somewhat stifle the voice of protest.

The U.S. actions are in direct conflict with the "spirit of Geneva." Because the meeting of the U.S. and USSR leaders expressed the desire for a general and complete ban on chemical weapons and the destruction of chemical weapons stocks. The proliferation of such weapons was also declared impermissible. The ideas formulated in recent Soviet proposals undoubtedly demonstrate our country's readiness to facilitate the destruction of "silent death" weapons in deeds rather than just words. It is time Washington demonstrated goodwill too.

/7358
CSO: 5200/1368

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESS CONFERENCE ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Elimination of Chemical Weapons Discussed

LD201621 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1407 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 20 May (TASS) -- The course now being conducted by the United States and a number of its NATO allies in trying to gain bloc approval for a chemical weapons rearmament program has the potential for extremely dangerous consequences, stated Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Department speaking today at a news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists that was devoted to banning chemical weapons. It is no accident that our news conference is devoted to this problem, he continued. To a large extent the question is now being decided as to whether events will proceed toward the complete elimination of this barbaric means of mass destruction as is being demanded by people ever more insistently, or if the world will be hurled into an extremely dangerous spiral in a chemical race as result of initiating [razvertyvanie] the production of a new type of these weapons -- binary weapons -- in the United States.

Also taking part in the news conference were Gennadiy Stashevskiy, deputy head of the USSR Foreign Ministry International Organizations Department; Major General Anatoliy Kuntsevich, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; and Colonel Aleksandr Kutepov. Both of the latter are Defense Ministry experts.

The extirpation of chemical weapons is an absolutely essential element in building secure peace in the system of general security that the USSR proposes to construct with the joint efforts of all states, said Anatoliy Kuntsevich. Chemical disarmament would be of particularly beneficial importance for Europe, a continent where the extremely mighty military groups of NATO and the Warsaw Pact face each other.

Those taking part in the news conference noted that while coming out consistently for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the century, the USSR considers it essential to achieve the complete liberation of mankind from chemical weapons in the same period too. To this end, it is making active efforts in the framework of the United Nations, at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, and in bilateral contacts with the United States. Along with this, the USSR favors the implementation of a number of intermediate steps toward such a radical understanding, for the adoption of measures on preventing the spread of chemical weapons, and freeing individual areas of the work from them.

Washington plans to modernize its chemical arsenal using binary systems, increasing chemical ammunition stocks from 3 to 5 million units over 5 years. It is planned to spend $10 billion on this. However, the U.S. Congress has made the actual start of binary weapons production dependent on gaining the agreement of the NATO allies for the modernization of U.S. chemical weapons. The United States will try to push through a decision in favor of producing binary weapons at the session of the NATO Planning Group at defense minister level on 21-22 May. Hence, in practice whether a new spiral in the chemical arms race begins now depends on the stand adopted by the governments of the other NATO countries on this issue.

It was noted at the news conference that Washington directly links the implementation of the U.S. plans to produce binary weapons with plans to subsequently site them in Western Europe -- which threatens to turn heavily populated areas of the European Continent into a potential theater of chemical war. Meanwhile, it is primarily the civilian population, which unlike the armed forces is absolutely defenseless in the face of this barbaric means of mass annihilation, that would be the main victim.

Real prospects for success have arisen in recent months at the talks for the complete prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons in Geneva. This has become formulated into a plan of principles in the speech by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev on 15 January, and then put to the Conference on Disarmament in a concrete form on 22 April by the USSR delegation. These proposals take into account the opinions of many member-states at the talks, including the United States and other Western countries. They envisage a set of measures that provides for a quick start to destroying chemical arsenals, the timely announcement of the siting of places where chemical weapons are produced, the ending of their operation, and the elimination of them under reliable systematic international control.

It is precisely at this moment that Washington and those NATO allies supporting its ambitions are setting themselves the aim of inundating our planet with new, even more concentrated chemical weapons. Those who are making the decision in favor of binary weapons must be aware of the full responsibility of the consequences of this step, it was stressed at the news conference.

Officials Respond to Questions

LD201721 Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- A press conference for Soviet and foreign reporters devoted to the problem of banning chemical weapons was held here today. Taking part in the conference were Chief of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry Vladimir Lomeyko, Deputy Chief of the Department of the International Organizations of the USSR Foreign Ministry Gennadiy Stashevskiy, experts of the USSR Foreign Ministry -- corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences Anatoliy Kuntsevich and Colonel Aleksandr Kutepov.

Answering the question as to how the matters stand with the implementation of the Soviet-U.S. agreements at the summit level, aimed at the removal of chemical danger, Gennadiy Stashevskiy said that on January 15 the USSR proposed a concrete programme of ridding humanity of chemical weapons before the end of the century. Following that, the Soviet Union submitted to the Geneva Conference on Disarmament new constructive proposals that make it posible to overcome many of the obstacles to agreeing on a number of important provisions of the convention being drafted. The United States delegation, on its part, has not taken a step toward reaching arrangement at the talks. The U.S. side is stepping up the efforts in quite a different direction: Toward a speedy implementation of a large-scale programme of chemical rearming. This approach does not agree with the Geneva arrangements at all.

Components of binary weapons can also be secretly produced on territories of various states, and this is particularly difficult to control. Hence, the very production of binary weapons is aimed at bypassing a declaration on banning chemical weapons which might be concluded. And finally, separate components can easily be camouflaged as various substances, taken to territories of other states and stored there. Moreover, other countries might follow the United States example in the production of binary weapons and then these highly dangerous and horrible weapons will proliferate all over the world.

Colonel Kutepov pointed out that implementation of the U.S. programme for the production of binary weapons would seriously poison the atmosphere at the talks on chemical weapons ban, would undermine the trust necessary for advancing the talks. Moreover, the problem of control, which, because of specific features of chemical production, is not simple as it is, would be complicated considerably.

Major General Kuntsevich refuted the allegations of Washington's representatives that components of binary charges are not dangerous. Quite the contrary, each separate component is highly toxic, to the degree of hydrogen cyanide, he said. Anatoliy Kuntsevich pointed to a very dangerous nature of the production of binary weapons. Their components can be changed during the use, which will render the adversary unprepared for defence.

Answering the question about the arrangement between the FRG and the USA, specifically on the question of the deployment of U.S. chemical weapons in the FRG territory, the participants in the press conference emphasized that this arrangement helps create a situation when the question of the appearance of binary weapons in the territory of the FRG, just as in the territories of other West European countries, is as if predetermined, and this is the essence of the matter. On the whole, the participants in the press conference noted, the FRG is obediently fulfilling all the plans worked out in Washington. Suffice it to recall the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, other plans to deploy offensive armaments in the European theatre, and the SDI programme.

The point of the matter now is the deployment of an additional arsenal of chemical weapons which are advanced to forward positions close to Warsaw Treaty countries, the Soviet Union, which seriously aggravates the situation in the European theatre and particularly in the FRG zone.

It was pointed out at the press conference that the Soviet Union supports and highly appreciates the initiatives of the governments of the German Democratic Republic, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Romania to create zones free from chemical weapons in central Europe and in the Balkans. The Soviet Union views these initiatives as a contribution to the efforts aimed at ridding peoples of the European Continent of chemical menace as soon as possible.

Touching upon the question of the possibility of unilateral moratorium on the production and testing of chemical weapons patterned on the moratorium on nuclear explosions, Major General Kuntsevich noted that the Soviet Union, unlike the United States, does not see special advantages of chemical weapons and does not stockpile these weapons. Vladimir Lomeyko stressed in this connection that in this sphere there cannot be unilateral advance over a long period of time and there cannot be only unilateral proposals from the Soviet Union. The proposals on chemical weapons set forth by the Soviet side in Geneva await their implementation, await a favourable attitude from Western powers.

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CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

MOSCOW: FIRE AT UK LAB SHOWS BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS DANGERS

LD081548 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 8 May 86

[Commentary by Viktor Glazov]

[Text] The French news agency has reported that on 1 May a fire destroyed a laboratory at a top secret chemical research complex at Porton Down, Wiltshire. Fortunately, components of biological weapons did not leak into the atmosphere. Viktor Glazov makes the following comment.

It is hard to imagine the consequences of the possible disaster. The densely populated areas of Britain could have suffered severe losses. The catastrophe could have affected areas far beyond the British Isles. Biological weapons were tested at Gruinard Island, off the northwestern coast of Scotland, during World War II. To this day any person who dares to step on the island is in deadly danger of contamination. Pentagon documents declassified in the early 1950's proved that the United States had closely cooperated with research and testing organizations in the United Kingdom in the sphere of developing biological weapons. Thirty years later, the British press reported that test tubes with deadly micro-organisms apparently continued traveling across the Atlantic. In the British Isles they disappear at laboratories of the military-chemical complex in Porton Down.

According to other press sources, Britain now actually holds the lead among the West European NATO countries in preparations for the use of chemical and biological weapons. In June 1981 THE TIMES spoke of long cherished plans of using biological weapons for offensive purposes. It said that as far back as in 1946 Britain made plans of nuclear bombardments and biological attacks on the Soviet Union. There is every reason to think that such old traditions of developing biological weapons have led to the stockpiling of the deadly mass annihilation arms in the territory of the country. The recent incident in Porton Down showed the danger of storing such weapons even in peaceful times.

In the early 1980's the bacteriological warfare laboratory, placed in the hands of the Department of Health, was returned to the Defense Ministry because of repeatedly new needs in the sphere of bacteriological warfare. This means new tests, studies and weapons, the slightest leakage of which can threaten the population and cause an uncontrolled situation. Meanwhile, the agreement banning the development, production, and storing of biological weapons came into force back in 1975. The document combined the steps to scrap bacteriological weapons or use them for peaceful needs with efforts to protect the population and envionment. The fire in Porton Down was extremely dangerous. The assurances of the British officials that there was no leakage of a most dangerous type of modern weapons cannot disperse anxiety over the continuing preparations of Britain for warfare involving the use of bacteriological arms.

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CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

AIDS IN CENTRAL AMERICA CALLED U.S. GERM WARFARE EXPERIMENT

Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian No 14, 2 Apr 86 p 9

[Article by LITERATURNAYA GAZETA correspondent Vladimir Vesenskiy under the rubric "The Fact Behind the Scenes": "Epidemic From the North?"]

[Text] A means of combating the SPID [AIDS] virus soon will be found! Salvation will come from the north! With such reports Washington is trying to calm the alarmed population of the countries of Latin America, where now many are speaking about this mysterious disease. But so far not salvation, but an AIDS epidemic is coming from the north.

In August of last year in Panama I learned accidentally about the fact that in one of the American hospitals cases of illness of U. S. military servicemen with the AIDS virus had been registered. The American military command asked the local authorities to take immediate measures to test and isolate prostitutes who were immigrants from the Dominican Republic, since, they said, the illness is most widespread in that country and on Haiti.

This information did not receive official confirmation and the press was also silent. Why? Is it not, asked my Panamanian colleagues, that these women having come in contact with American servicemen, became carriers of the deadly virus and could threaten the clientele of the brothels, the majority of whom consist of soldiers, tourists and businessmen from the U. S.?

On 7 March of this year Agence France-Presse and the Spanish EFE reported that a doctor at an American military hospital in (Palmerol), Honduras, detected AIDS among prostitutes from a public house for U. S. military servicemen. And again the Americans tried to place all the blame on the local population.

This news caused a flareup of indignation in Honduras. The fact that U. S. military bases are breeding grounds of venereal diseases has long been known. But AIDS! The Honduran parliament demanded that American units be moved farther away from populated areas and isolated from the population. Ubiquitous journalists elucidated through their channels that the first carrier of the AIDS virus in Honduras was an American military serviceman, who arrived in the country in 1982.

The alarm of Panama, Honduras and the other Latin American countries is understandable. The illness may become a national calamity for them. With a shortage of means of treatment and with millions of people who have never seen a doctor, AIDS is capable of spreading like the plague. It is terrible to think what misfortunes it could bring to the Third World.

Several years ago I was involved in investigating biological sabotage by the U. S. special services against Cuba. "Medics" from Langley then tried with the aid of dengue fever to paralyze life on the island. The similarity inevitably rises in the mind. One begins to understand the international experts who consider the AIDS virus the result of scientific (if this can be called science) experiments by U. S. military specialists, working to develop new types of biological weapons. The AIDS virus, experts assert, could have either unintentionally slipped out of the laboratories, for example, through accidentally infected soldiers from the vicinity of these facilities, or the civilian population could have been intentionally infected. I remind any one to whom such cruelty seems improbable of the publication in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA (No. 5, 1982), which discussed a certain American named (Nelin) who had carried out experiments in Pakistan on the local peasants. He paid them $3 each and placed mosquitos infected with dengue fever and other dangerous illnesses to bite them. Apropos of this, after the publication (Nelin) had to be urgently sent home.

And now we have AIDS. The American press, apparently at the dictates of the Pentagon, is insistently striving to prove that the virus originated in Central Africa, and sometimes calls Haiti its "birthplace." Why not the U. S.? The answer is "convincing:" According to American laws experiments with such kinds of viruses on U. S. territory are prohibited. If research is carried out, it is on the territories of other countries and with the agreement of their governments. Or without such agreement, as was the case with the American laboratory in Pakistan.

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CSO: 5200/1346

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

ITALY REITERATES STAND ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS

AU191636 Rome ANSA in English 1020 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, May 19 -- Italy reiterated its total condemnation of chemical arms over the weekend and said it continues to give "absolute priority" to the rapid conclusion of an accord which would ban such weapons.

Both the Premier's Office and the Foreign Ministry reiterated the Italian position with reference to the recent meeting of the NATO Defense Planning Committee in Brussels when the U.S. said it would produce "binary" chemical weapons.

The Farnesina said that the committee meeting had led to no change in the position of Italy which insists on the absolute need to respect norms of international law which prohibit the use of chemical arms and wants to see an international agreement that would ban production and detention of such arms as well.

Under the U.S. scheme, the "binary" weapons mentioned at the NATO committee meeting would be produced and stocked exclusively on American territory in time of peace. Their eventual deployment in Europe -- in case of attack or threat of attack with chemical weapons by Eastern Europe -- would be subordinated to consultation among the allies and, in any case, to the explicit consent of any individual states involved.

In these terms, there was general recognition among the committee members of the legitimacy of U.S. efforts to bring its deterrent in this field to the level of the existing Soviet threat.

The Premier's Office Saturday stressed that the problem of the modernization of chemical weapons was a defense goal of the United States and so long as the production and stocking of these new "binary" weapons were confined within the United States, the allies could not pose impediments or conditions. Nevertheless, Italy would work to give new impetus to negotiations underway to stipulate a verifiable and total ban on all chemical arms, the Premier's Office said.

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CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

BRIEFS

CRAXI LETTER TO REAGAN--Prime Minister Bettino Craxi has sent a personal message to President Reagan on the subject of arms control and reduction. According to what we have heard from Palazzo Chigi, the message particularly concerns the problem of the observance of the SALT agreement. On this subject Reagan had entrusted his special adviser, Meese, to describe to the Italian Government the U.S. administration's position. Meanwhile, certain indications of Italy's position on chemical weapons have emanated from the Palazzo today. First and foremost, stress is laid on Italy's full support for a more decisive impulse to be given to the negotiations in progress on concluding a verifiable agreement on a total ban of all chemical weapons. It is further stressed that Italy does not produce, does not deploy, and does not intend to deploy chemical weapons and is ready to accept any type of verification on its territory. Finally, regarding the modernization of chemical weapons in the United States, it is stressed that any decisions made in this regard would involve only the U.S. Government. [Text] [Rome International Service in Italian 1555 GMT 17 May 86 LD] /9274

CSO: 5200/2689

NUCLEAR TESTING AND FREE ZONE PROPOSALS

IZVESTIYA: EUROPEAN REACTION TO TEST BAN PROPOSAL

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Apr 86 p 5

[Discussion with IZVESTIYA correspondents Aleksandr Krivopalov in England and Mikhail Ilinskiy in Italy, conducted by IZVESTIYA special correspondent Vladimir Lapskiy, under the rubric "On the Wire to London and Rome": "Time Does Not Wait, Time Flies"]

> [Text] The Soviet Union proposed that negotiations begin immediately on a total nuclear test ban, including the question of verification. This proposal, as is known, was made a few days ago in a speech by Comrade M. S. Gorbachev on Soviet television. He stated: "I am ready in the very near future to meet with President Reagan in London or Rome, or any other European capital..."

[Lapskiy] How was the proposal by the Soviet leader received in London? What responses did it raise among the British?

[Krivopalov] To many British people the Soviet idea about such a possible meeting in the very near future seemed entirely natural. Was Britain not a partner of the USSR and U. S. in the past in trilateral negotiations on this topic? Moreover, recently combined British-American explosions were carried out in Nevada. Extensive circles of the British public are profoundly concerned about the participation of their country in the nuclear arms race at this particularly dangerous and undoubtedly crucial stage. In short, there are more than enough arguments supporting the utility of an urgent summit meeting. All the opposition parties want official London to undertake specific, independent steps in this direction.

For example, in the opinion of the leader of the Social Democrats, former secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs D. Owen, the British prime minister should personally request that the leaders of the USSR and U. S. resume trilateral negotiations on concluding an all-encompassing treaty, which bans the testing of all types of nuclear weapons. Owen called upon Britain to play a truly constructive role here.

[Lapskiy] How are public organizations reacting?

[Krivopalov] I just spoke with Alan Davis, a representative of the organization Lawyers for Nuclear Disarmament. In my opinion he accurately defined the position of the whole anti-war movement in the British Isles: "The obstacles which people attempt to place in the path of negotiations on a total nuclear weapons test ban, as the Soviet Union proposed to conduct, cause us great concern and alarm. Everyone understands what is going on. Washington and London planned a series of tests and do not want to renounce them. This is distressing. But we cannot limit ourselves to emotions alone. We must act. Peaceloving forces must force the Washington administration, as well as the British government, to sit at the negotiating table. I speak of this with full responsibility as a lawyer and an Englishman."

[Lapskiy] What is the reaction to tne Soviet proposal in Italy?

[Ilinskiy] Everyone with whom I spoke welcomed it. My interlocutors emphasized that this is the very time to halt nuclear testing. At the Catholic Italian press alliance I met with (Bruno Olini), its deputy chairman. He stated: "The Soviet Union is meeting the expectations of the peoples and is affirming with deeds the statements uttered in Geneva. We took note of the fact that for the USSR any variants of negotiations are acceptable. It should be welcomed if Rome were mentioned among the possible places for negotiations. In our opinion all of Western Europe must assist in the political dialogue." Here are the words of Italian public figure (Renato Roshel). "Our city is remarkable for its hospitality and expansive spirit. It was good to hear that the Italian capital was named among possible places for a summit meeting."

[Lapskiy] The Soviet proposal, as is known, evoked a quick and negative reaction from the White House. It was stated there that the United States is lagging in the development of nuclear weapons and, therefore, the tests would continue. What do Englishmen think about this?

[Krivopalov] Such an ostentatious refusal on the part of Washington caused numerous protests in Britain. The mood of ordinary Britishers is reflected, in particular, in the letters published on the pages of GUARDIAN. One of the authors, (K. Hine), from London, recalls that the "star wars" program presumes the continuation of explosions in Nevada and the testing of new weapons systems. (R. Webster) from the city of Poole in Dorchester, giving a high assessment to the peaceloving steps of the USSR, which announced unilateral moratoriums on nuclear testing, asked the question: "Why does the U. S. not halt testing? Is it due to a lack of real political will? Or perhaps Washington is simply not interested in achieving any agreements on weapons control? Decide for yourselves which of the two powers is subjecting international security to the greatest risk."

[Lapskiy] What did the Italians feel when they learned that the United States did not desire to give a favorable answer to the Soviet proposal?

[Ilinskiy] They were disappointed. This is indicated by many statements and commentaries in the local press. The same (Bruno Olini) told me: "Washington stubbornly calls the Soviet initiatives 'propagandistic.' But what is the purpose for this label, when the realistic and specific foundation for the Soviet proposals can be clearly seen."

[Lapskiy] Apparently, there are also in England others who are defending Washington's position. What arguments do they use?

[Krivopalov] Their main, allow me to say, argument is the following. Nuclear explosions, they say, are not subject to verification and therefore must continue. Such arguments, you yourselves understand, are not worth a wooden nickel. The London GUARDIAN, for example, published commentaries of its scientific reviewer. Relying on the conclusion of international experts who have studied the issue of measures of verification over nuclear tests for the U.N., he writes: "The modern system of electronic detectors completely excludes the possibility for carrying out secret explosions."

[Lapskiy] It must be that not everyone in Britain knows about the latest Soviet specification regarding the monitoring of nuclear tests...

[Krivopalov] This is entirely true. On this account the British are poorly informed. A few days ago I held a rather long discussion with Field Marshal Lord Carver. Far from all of his judgements and assessments seemed fair to me. Nevertheless, this authoritative man and highly experienced, professional military person expressed categorical disagreement with Washington's SDI program. In the opinion of Lord Carver it represents a three-fold risk.

[Lapskiy] What did he have in mind?

[Krivopalov] The first risk is that SDI is dangerous on a technological plane. Everything is entrusted to electronics. The program can be truly tested only under conditions of nuclear war. The second risk is that the program is disturbing in its purely military aspects. As is known, every new weapons system gives rise to countermeasures by the other side. The third risk is that SDI is associated with complications related to its political characteristics. The USSR will have a stronger basis to speak about the threat of a first strike. The USSR will not permit the approximate military equality with the U. S. to be destroyed.

[Lapskiy] The Italian government has repeatedly stated that it is prepared to facilitate halting the arms race and to contribute to the successful conduct and conclusion of Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva on nuclear and space weapons. Today it adopted a resolution to permit Italian firms to take part in the American program for implementation of SDI.

[Ilinskiy] Many Italians are unhappy with this decision. Government representatives say that Italy's participation in "star wars" preparations is limited to research. But the fact is that the country is gradually being drawn into implementing American plans directed at the militarization of space. While speaking about its desire for peace and its adherence to the cause of limiting and reducing nuclear weapons, the Italian government is, in fact, taking a step in the opposite direction.

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NUCLEAR TESTING AND FREE ZONE PROPOSALS

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ARTICLE ON NUCLEAR TEST BAN

PM231642 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 86 First Edition p 4

[Editorial article: "The Prohibition of Nuclear Weapon Testing Is a Matter for All Peoples"]

[Text] The situation that has taken shape in the world at the present time demands of statesmen and public figures and of every person on earth as never before an understanding of the danger point that the world has reached in our time. The unprecedented arms race being forced on by Washington and its NATO allies on earth and the U.S. project for transferring it to space, the stockpiling of mountains of nuclear and missile weapons, and the Pentagon plans for stuffing Europe full of yet another type of barbaric weapon in the form of binary chemical weapons have all served to confront mankind with a stark choice. What must be done to halt a further slide toward thermonuclear disaster? The fact is that nuclear weapons -- the creature of imperialism -- embody forces capable of destroying all the achievements of civilization.

Recognition of the scale of the danger inherent in these weapons has begun to be shown particularly extensively now that people throughout the world are reflecting on what follows when nuclear energy gets out of control, as occurred in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl AES. The numerous instances of accidents and radioactive discharges at American and West European nuclear power stations, which the world public has recently been learning about in detail, also gives pause for thought here. No matter how the Western propaganda mouthpieces may try to inflate the scale of the trouble caused by the Chernobyl accident in their shameless fabrications, they are unable to conceal the fact that the scale of that misfortune bears no comparison with what threatens mankind if nuclear war is brought down on it. The nuclear arsenals stockpiled throughout the world contain the seeds of thousands and thousands of disasters much more terrible than Chernobyl.

And that is the main point right now. Anyone who is concerned not just in words but in reality for the destiny of mankind and for its present and future is bound to come to the same conclusion. This is convincingly confirmed by the universal sharpening of attention to nuclear questions and above all to the problems of halting tests and limiting and reducing, and then of completely eliminating, one of the most dangerous means of mass destruction. Guided by the security interests of its own people and all mankind, the Soviet state has proposed a wide-scale program for averting thermonuclear war and eliminating mass destruction weapons before the end of the 20th century. It was expounded in the 15 January 1985 statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and fully approved by the 27th CPSU Congress.

Because of the U.S. ruling circles' unwillingness to take the path of an extensive review of their policy of nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, our country believes that in the interests of improving the international situation it is time to make some kind of start [s chego-to nachinat], to get things moving, and to set an example. Guided by these considerations, the Soviet Union has proposed starting with the simplest and most readily achievable steps that can be separated out from the overall context without upsetting the balance in the correlation of forces or anyone's security, namely the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe and the halting of nuclear tests. How timely and far-sighted these steps are may be judged from the reaction they have engendered throughout the world.

The Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests encountered the support of all peace-loving forces in the international arena. Dozens of states in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America issued demands that the United States follow the Soviet Union's example. More than two-thirds of U.S. citizens came out in support of the moratorium. The demand for the end to nuclear testing was reflected in decisions of the UN General Assembly where 120 states voted for an appropriate resolution.

The will of hundreds and hundreds of millions of people is expressed in the well-known appeal by the leaders of six states -- Argentina, Greece, Mexico, India, Tanzania, and Sweden -- to the leaders of the USSR and the United States.

The struggle for the prohibition of nuclear tests has assumed such a broad scale that it can be rightly described as the vital concern of all peoples. This is generating fury in the camp of those who reject the idea of a moratorium and who would like to continue to keep the world in their nuclear sights. Is this not the reason why the members of the antinuclear movement in the United States, Britain, and a number of other NATO countries are being cruelly persecuted? Police batons are used to rain down blows on them; they are thrown behind bars and put in the dock for their antiwar convictions and for their devotion to the ideals of peace and freedom. The special services and the bourgeois propaganda mouthpieces are waging an unbridled "psychological war" against the supporters of nuclear disarmament.

All the same, the forces of reaction and war are not able to curb those who have come to realize the awesome danger hanging over the world through the fault of the nuclear maniacs. Many eminent scientists -- Nobel Prize winners -- recently issued statements demanding that the arms race be halted, that nuclear explosions be stopped, and that the way be opened to agreement on banning all nuclear tests. Weeks of action in defense of peace are being held on all continents, and at mass rallies petitions are being adopted calling on governments to embark on the road of active support for the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and other proposals aimed at curbing the forces of aggression and war.

The biggest international and national antiwar organizations are holding conferences and meetings at which declarations are being adopted calling on the broad masses of the people to make their contribution to the solution of the most pressing problem of our time -- ending the nuclear arms race on earth and preventing it from gaining access to space. These organizations are deeply convinced that the most important condition for the transformation of 1986 into a real International Year of Peace would be the total cessation of nuclear tests in the immediate future and the reaching of understanding between all interested powers on the conclusion of an agreement totally prohibiting these tests.

Our country is fully determined to do everything in its power to achieve this noble goal and to back up by deeds its foreign policy aims. This is borne out by the

decision made this month by our government to extend the unilateral Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August this year. This decision was announced 14 May by M.S. Gorbachev speaking on Soviet television. This act of goodwill is being received with tremendous enthusiasm by millions of people in all countries.

Banning nuclear tests today means halting the further improvement of various kinds of nuclear weapons and barring the path to the creation [sozdaniye] of space-based strike weapons.

It is clear to everyone that the planet can be rid of nuclear tests. It is merely up to the U.S. side. Aware of this, the peoples demand that the United States follow the USSR's example, that the White House administration weigh with utmost responsibility the extent of the danger hanging over the world and heed the voice of the world community which insists on an end to nuclear tests.

The Soviet Union calls on the United States to go further, not to limit itself merely to ending explosions but also to positively resolve the specific question of banning nuclear tests, a question that perturbs everyone. It was for this purpose that the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee proposed holding an immediate meeting with the U.S. President in the capital of any European state or in Hiroshima. Such a meeting, if it were to take place and be crowned with positive results, would clear the way for the conclusion of an international treaty on a general and complete ban on nuclear weapon tests.

Much is being said and written in the United States about the supposed nuclear superiority of the USSR, this being an attempt to justify the continuing nuclear explosions in the United States. It was proved a long time ago that these claims are totally groundless. We do not pursue military superiority, but we will not forego our security either. An end to nuclear tests would not bring any advantages to either side. This is axiomatic. However, the continuation of tests is aimed at smashing the prevailing balance of forces. This, actually, is what the opponents of the moratorium and the conclusion of a nuclear weapon test ban agreement are counting on; namely the ones who conducted the latest nuclear explosion at the Nevada test site on 21 May, the 11th explosion since 6 August 1985 when the Soviet Union announced the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions.

It is easy to imagine the gain that would accrue to the cause of peace all over the world in the event that an agreement on the end to nuclear tests is concluded. After all, a ban on nuclear weapon tests accords with the vital interests of all peoples. The interdependence of the security of all states in our nuclear age has become so close that its violation in one region in the event of a nuclear conflict would inevitably create a lethal threat for the whole world.

This is why we believe, and this viewpoint is shared today by a growing number of states in the international arena, that the United States must display a new and realistic approach toward the Soviet proposals and initiatives. What is needed at a time when the world is sliding down the slope toward a nuclear war are approaches and criteria that are different from the ones that have up to now guided the White House administration, and the U.S. military-industrial complex which stands behind it, in the determination of its foreign policy and military-strategic course.

Time imperatively dictates the necessity of giving up the groundless and illusory hopes that nuclear missile superiority can be attained by the United States, the chauvinistic intoxication of the great power policy of "neoglobalism" and its loathsome manifestation -- state terrorism. This would be to the benefit both for the United States and also for the cause of preserving peace all over the world.

It is time, it has long been high time that Washington heed the clearly expressed will of the whole of mankind, demanding that nuclear tests be ended and banned.

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RELATED ISSUES

TASS REBUTS REAGAN STATISTICS ON ARMS RACE

LD221243 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 22 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev

U.S. President Ronald Reagan has announced that during the last five years, that is during his White House tenure, the Soviet Union has out-built all NATO countries, including the United States, in fighter planes and bombers fifty times over.

He also asserted that the NATO allies were hopelessly lagging behind the USSR in the production of tanks, artillery pieces, submarines and ballistic missles. The President's claims, made during a television talk show with American students, startled journalists and administration officials alike.

Reading the transcript of the conversation, one involuntarily recalls the President's previous remarks, including the one alleging that a nuclear missle launched from a submarine could be ordered back if necessary...[TASS ellipsis]

No one, including the American students whom the President addressed, believed what he said this time either. Even the loyal Larry Speakes, White House deputy press secretary failed to confirm Reagan's remarks, saying only that the figures were being checked.

Speakes' reply alone shows that the figures were spun out of thin air. No one even took notice of the contradiction between the U.S. "lag" and Reagan's remark during the same talk that the situation was rectified during his stay in the White House.

Journalists did pay attention not so much to the fact of the distortion by the President in comparing the military industries of the USSR and the U.S. -- everyone got used to that -- but the scale of falsification.

As a matter of fact, President Reagan's address ot the students was time to coincide with the intensification of the campaign for a greater military budget.

During the last five years, as is known, the U.S. Administration spent more than a trillion dollars on military purposes. The following question arises: Isn't the President going to increase U.S. military spending fifty times, that is up to fifty trillion dollars, within the next five years?

Pentagon officials were worried in the beginning too. They feared that Reagan would accept the USSR's proposal for a "freeze" on nuclear potentials so as to prevent the broadening of the purported lag of the U.S. But Reagan quickly comforted the officials from the Dpartment of Defence by saying to the American students that "you would and you can" fight.

To what extent Reagan would like to increase military spending in the next five years is difficult to say. When he will fulfil his promise to the American students about their taking part in war is unclear either.

One thing is clear, though. It is that Washington is not going to give up the frenzied arms race. The President's assurances about his desire to agree on arms cuts give rise to the same mistrust as his latest fictional figures about the U.S. and NATO lag in the military field.

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CSO: 5200/1396

RELATED ISSUES

MOSCOW HITS CARRINGTON, LISTS CONCRETE SOVIET PROPOSALS

LD292124 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] The secretary general of NATO, Lord Carrington, has challenged the Soviet Union to back its ideas for disarmament with concrete proposals that can be negotiated. He claims that Moscow has made a series of statements to influence public opinion, but where are the real concrete Soviet proposals, he enquires? Our commentator Nikolay Borin is here in the studio. Nikolay, do you think Lord Carrington is familiar with the Soviet proposals on this score?

[Borin] I hope he has had time to read about them not only in the press. Concreteness is exactly what Moscow is pressing for now. In Geneva it has put forward a very concrete and radical proposal to scrap Soviet and American intermediate range missiles in Europe. Their only condition is that Britain and France shouldn't increase their nuclear forces, powerful as they are (?on the European scale). The plan could serve as a foundation for important agreements.

The Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, recently offered to meet President Ronald Reagan with the purpose of outlining a concrete agreement on a nuclear test ban. On the 22d of last month the Soviet Union proposed a no less clear draft agreement to ban war chemicals. All these initiatives are supposed to help overcome the existing differences on the issue -- I mean a notable expansion of verification measures, including on-site inspection of the facilities producing war chemicals.

And now as for conventional armaments: The Warsaw Treaty countries are just about to propose a detailed program of talks and the proposals concerning the entire territory of Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals. I think Lord Carrington can complain of anything but a lack of concrete Soviet proposals that could become a subject of concrete talks any day.

[Question] Now, what's the reason then for Lord Carrington's harsh tone?

[Borin] You see, he was addressing an audience of NATO countries which are extremely alarmed by the intentions of the United States to undermine the SALT II treaty. If we use military terms, we can say that the secretary general conducted a softening-up operation for the Americans. This will be followed by an American diplomatic offensive against the entire set of Soviet-American understandings which now restrain ambitious American military programs. You see, the antiballistic missile treaty as well as SALT II is now threatened. At the same time most NATO countries feel that it is time to hold talks that could strengthen existing agreements on arms control. So Lord Carrington is apparently alarmed by the situation that has taken shape just before the beginning of the conference in Halifax and is ready to do everything in support of the American attempt.

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CSO: 5200/1387

RELATED ISSUES

SPAIN'S GONZALEZ DISCUSSES ARMS ISSUES WITH SOVIET LEADERS

Ryzhkov, Gonzalez Begin Talks

LD191915 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 19 May 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] Talks began today between Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov and Felipe Gonzalez.

During the talks, the sides noted with satisfaction that the USSR and Spain have contact points on a number of important aspects on international life. This creates the possibility for expanding the spheres of mutual understanding, and for the joint or parallel action of the two countries to strengthen peace, trust, security, and cooperation in Europe and beyond its borders. The sides recognized that broad, productive dialogue at all levels -- political, parliamentary, and public -- was an essential element in normal, healthy relations between East and West. They expressed the mutual conviction that the constructive character of relations between the Soviet Union and Spain serves not only the vital interests of the peoples of both countries, but also the cause of strengthening international peace and cooperation. Emphasis was put on the significance of developing a political dialogue between the USSR and Spain at various levels. Political dialogue is an irreplaceable instrument for the growth of trust and mutual understanding, for establishing cooperation both in resolving bilateral issues and in the context of assistance to settle the more urgent problems of the situations in Europe, the Mediterranean, and the whole world.

Felipe Gonzalez' attention was drawn to the Soviet peace initiatives, including the strengthening of an international procedure for the safe development of nuclear power engineering, proposed by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in his Soviet television speech of 14 May, and the Soviet Union's decision to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August.

On his part, Felipe Gonzalez confirmed the Spanish Government's intention to assist in strengthening peace and curbing the arms race. He appraised highly recent Soviet initiatives in the disarmament sphere, emphasizing that they would gave a significant impetus to efforts aimed at reducing and eliminating weapons.

Taking part in the talks on the Soviet side were Shevardnadze, Talyzin, and other comrades. On the Spanish side were officials accompanying Felipe Gonzalez.

PRAVDA Lists Talks Participants

[Editorial Report]

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 21 May carries in its First Edition on page 1 a TASS report under the headline "On an Official Visit" which reports on the talks held between N.I. Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR Council of Ministers chairman, and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez on 19 May. The PRAVDA report has been compared with the Moscow Television Service Russian version published in the 21 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page G 1, revealing the following variation:

Penultimate paragraph, last line PRAVDA concludes: and environmental protection.

The following took part in the talks: on the Soviet side -- G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; B.I. Aristov, USSR minister of foreign trade; A.G. Kovalev, USSR first deputy foreign minister; A.I. Kachanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; and S.K. Romanovskiy, USSR ambassador to Spain; and on the Spanish side -- F. Fernandez Ordonez, foreign minister; C. Solchaga, minister of economy and finance; J. Solana, minister of culture and official government spokesman; J.L. Xifra, Spanish ambassador to the USSR; J. Feo, secretary to the prime minister; G. del la Dehesa, secretary general of the Trade Administration; E. Santos, assistant secretary of the Industry and Power Administration; J.L. Yanez-Barnuevo, chief of the International Section of the Government Chancellery; S. Salas, head of chancellery to the foreign minister; and J. Esquerra, director general of the Foreign Ministry Administration for European Countries' Foreign Policy. (supplying additional names)

Ryzhkov Dinner Speech

PM211129 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May First Edition p 1

[Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian at 1620 GMT on 19 May transmits a report on Ryzhkov's speech, which adds the following: "A dinner in honor of Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and his wife was given on behalf of the Soviet Government in the Grand Kremlin Palace on 19 May. The officials accompanying Gonzalez on his visit were also present at the dinner. Present from the Soviet side were: Nikolay Ryzhkov and his wife; Geydar Aliyev; Eduard Shevardnadze; Petr Demichev; Nikolay Talyzin and Aleksandr Yakovlev, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; USSR ministers, chairmen of the USSR State Committees, and other officials. Nikolay Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, delivered a speech at the dinner."]

Your visit to the Soviet Union, my dear Mr Gonzalez, is convincing evidence of the fact that Soviet-Spanish relations and contacts have attained a good level. Indicative of this is the fact that this is the first visit by a head of the Spanish Government in the entire history of relations between our countries. The Soviet leadership welcomes their development and intends to continue promoting them in a comprehensive way in the future. In assessing the accomplishments, one cannot fail to mention that we appreciate the trip to the Soviet Union made by King Juan Carlos I in the summer of 1984.

Our two states, located at the opposite ends of Europe, are separated geographically from each other. There are also other differences: for instance, the character of the social setup, the place in the system of political alliances. However, the universal principle of peaceful coexistence, of which the Soviet Union remains a convinced advocate, holds that such differences should not be an obstacle in the way of normal, mutually beneficial relations if they are developed by both sides on the basis of goodwill, mutual respect, and noninterference.

The Soviet people's attitude toward the Spaniards is that of sincere sympathy. They have always welcomed in a friendly way the Spanish people's striving for progress and for democratization of social life. As far as we can judge, goodwill between our peoples is mutual and it is deep-rooted. The Soviet Union is prepared to expand cooperation with Spain and to increase its political dialogue with it. It is in the interests of both countries that our political consultations be imparted a regular character and for greater dynamism to be exhibited in mutually beneficial exchanges in the economic, scientific and technological, and cultural spheres.

The talks which began today and the forthcoming meeting between Spanish Prime Minister Gonzalez and CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev will initiate, we hope, a new stage in developing Soviet-Spanish relations in various areas.

The importance of this Soviet-Spanish meeting is not merely bilateral. It accords, in our opinion, with the joint efforts by many nations in favor of easing tension and restoring the policy of detente. In order to look jointly for opportunities to radically improve the situation in Europe and the world, and in order to strengthen trust, there is no other way but to broaden contacts, consultations, and constructive exchanges -- everything that is covered by the common notion of East-West dialogue.

The problems facing mankind in the last decades of the 20th century demand unusual, innovative approaches. In response to this demand, the Soviet Union offers a comprehensive program for restructuring international relations on new, sensible foundations.

This aim is served by the plan for a stage-by-stage movement aimed at ridding the world of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. This aim is served by the steps directed at preventing an arms race in outer space and promoting widespread international cooperation in its peaceful uses. This aim is served by the proposal of the 27th CPSU Congress for establishing the foundations of a comprehensive security system to encompass the military, political, economic, and humanitarian spheres. Finally, in line with that are our initiatives on the elimination of chemical weapons and sharp cuts in conventional arms and armed forces in Europe.

Hard as the path of attaining this objective might be, it has to be taken in order to ensure the survival of mankind. Goodwill and readiness for sensible compromises will be required from every state. No one should doubt the Soviet Union's intention to act persistently and purposefully together with its allies and friends for the sake of maintaining and strengthening peace.

We also declare, just as definitely, that the attempts to exert pressure on the Soviet Union, to achieve unilateral advantages and violate military-strategic parity will not succeed. In the nuclear and space age, states, especially large ones, bear immense responsibility for preventing the crossing of the line separating the world from the irreparable. It is totally inadmissible to play with the destinies of peace by resorting to military adventures.

Is there any other assessment of the U.S. armed attack on Libya? Can one agree that this or that state should assume the right to carry out punitive operations, no matter under what pretext, against other sovereign states? The international community cannot allow arbitrariness and chaos to prevail in international relations.

The Soviet Union and Spain are directly concerned by the developments on the European Continent. We note with satisfaction that there is much in common in the approaches of our countries to European problems.

How do we view today the overdue tasks of European politics?

First of all, it is important to complete the first stage of the Stockholm Conference with positive results. That is possible and it is quite realistic, given a mutual desire to achieve accords. But as all signs indicate, that is precisely what some of our Western partners so far lack. Otherwise, it is difficult to explain why the conference has stalled. The success or the failure of Stockholm is, in the present situation, the touchstone of one's readiness to strive by deeds, not by words, to diminish the threat of war on our continent and to really strengthen trust. This is necessary both in itself, and for a new all-European meeting in Vienna. I think that Spain, like the Soviet Union, would like the Vienna meeting to adopt a decision to turn to the second phase of the conference to deal with disarmament in Europe. This would impart a new impetus to the development of the Helsinki process in all its aspects.

Ridding Europe of the burden of armaments, especially nuclear ones, has become the most urgent need. Our attitude toward the position of Spain, which does not wish to have nuclear weapons on its territory, is that of understanding and respect. The Soviet Union, for its part, has advanced large-scale and constructive proposals that largely take into account the concerns and worries of West Europeans.

We hope that they have not yet given their final word in response to our initiatives.

Peace-loving states should keep the arms race from spreading into outer space and curb it on earth with concerted efforts. If that is not done, all countries, the entire world, will find themselves with less security. The experience acquired by mankind in developing destructive nuclear weapons should become, in the words of the great Cervantes, "Both a lesson for the present, and a warning for the future."

The tragic accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant came as an ample warning to mankind. The misfortune, caused by a breakdown at the station, is not commensurate with the destructive, pernicious whirlwind contained in the nuclear weapons.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, I want to express gratitude to Spain for its expression of sympathy, and for the proposals of aid to eliminate the accident's consequences.

We are drawing conclusions from the mishap -- both for ourselves and for cooperation with other countries in the interests of the international community. The Soviet Union suggests establishing an international body for the safe development of the atomic industry, and mending the mechanism for providing reciprocal assistance as soon as possible in dangerous situations. But the most important thing is to achieve the earliest elimination of the catastrophic threat harbored by the thousands of nuclear warheads accumulated in the arsenals of the states. The first step toward that is to end nuclear testing. The Soviet Union's decision to extend its unilateral moratorium until 6 August -- Hiroshima Day -- was prompted entirely by the aspiration to rid mankind of that threat.

That is why the appeal made by Mikhail Gorabchev in his televised address to the United States -- to weigh with all responsiblity the measure of the threat looming over mankind -- is shared by millions of people in all countries of the world.

One hopes that, in the struggle against the nuclear threat, our peoples will always be together, because this cause is common to all.

Our slogan is that scientific and technological progress should promote peace. Among the countries with which the Soviet Union cooperates in the most advanced branches of science and engineering, we would be glad to see more often Spain, a country with growing industrial and scientific potential.

Mr Prime Minister, let me with you, your esteemed wife, and all our Spanish guests a pleasant and useful stay in our country, good health and well-being. We wish happiness, peace and progress to the friendly Spanish people.

Let Soviet-Spanish relations be further developed for the benefit of our countries' peoples and in the interests of European and universal security.

Gonzalez Dinner Speech

PM220911 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report on speech by Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez in reply to USSR Council of Minister Chairman Ryzhkov's speech at 19 May Kremlin dinner under general headline "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Excerpts] After expressing thanks for the friendly words, the warm reception, and the good wishes to the Spanish people, F. Gonzalez expressed pleasure at being in the capital of the great Soviet land.

Recently, the guest continued, there have been important events in the international arena that force mankind to choose peaceful concord or crises in various regions of the globe and threats to peaceful coexistence and mutual understanding between peoples.

Everyone received the Geneva meeting with great hope. The two great powers -- the USSR and the United States -- cannot ignore each other. The expectation of the next meeting in Geneva and the resumption of talks are encouraging new signs of the desire to achieve mutual understanding, and that must not be lost. For our part, we will make every effort to ensure that this newly resumed dialogue can continue and even become stronger, despite the difficulties that so often overshadow the international situation.

We are confident that dialogue between Eastern and Western countries can be realistic and fruitful if it is based on the following three points: disarmament, the peaceful resolution of all world conflicts, and cooperation between peoples.

The question of disarmament and arms limitation, more than any other, requires study and discussion at international forums. Without losing sight of the tasks that are tackled within the UN framework, it is quite obvious that primary attention must be devoted to talks between the USSR and the United States, the mightiest powers and on whose shoulders world responsibility rests.

The United States and the USSR advanced interesting proposals at the Geneva talks. The differences between them must not allow us to forget what is most important -- the need for decisive steps leading to the attainment of a significant limitation on thermonuclear weapons.

Spain receives with great interest any proposals aimed at limiting the arms of the main powers. Important proposals raising the question of destroying nuclear weapons over a long period lose their meaning unless a significant, interconnected disarmament takes place at the same time. Moreover, only through efforts in this direction will it be possible to avoid another increase in the arms race.

The success of disarmament talks requires an improvement in trust between the interlocutors. This can be achieved through the establishment of an appropriate system of information and communication in order to clarify any doubts about each side's intentions, and also by means of the development of a verification mechanism guaranteeing the observance of agreements achieved.

Peace must be sought not only through disarmament, but by overcoming conflicts wherever they may arise. In this sense the relaxation of tension must be regarded not as an exclusively European factor, but as a world factor, in accordance with the Final Act of the Helsinki conference.

It must be noted that the planet has had no world wars since 1945. This is to the credit of the modern international order. However, regional conflicts exist -- from Central America to central Asia, from South Africa to Indochina. Unfortunately, war remains mankind's terrible enemy. While these conflicts continue, mutual distrust between countries will not disappear.

The conference on contacts between people, which was planned by the CSCE, is ending in Berne now. The session's results will be of great significance, since they determine the mood in which the new meeting of CSCE participants will begin in Vienna this fall.

It is not long now to the end of the Stockholm conference, from which we all expect positive results. At the same time, such principles as, for instance, the banning of the use of force in international relations must be reaffirmed and concrete measures must be adopted to strengthen confidence, without which these statements would have no meaning.

We are confident that the process that began in Helsinki has not yet ended. That European dialogue must continue until such time as on our continent Europeans feel they live in greater security.

Despite the difference between our systems, Spain and the USSR declare their desire to achieve peace throughout the world, as well as their desire to increase their citizens' well-being and carry out modernization in their countries. In relation to the USSR, that was stressed by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and by you yourself, at the 27th CPSU Congress.

For my part, I can assure you that our visit has the aim of making a positive contribution in the interests not only of our countries, but of the entire international community.

In conclusion, the Spanish head of government proposed a toast in honor of N.I. Ryzhkov and all those present, to the development of relations between the two countries and to a bright future for the Soviet people.

Meets Gorbachev

LD201655 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 20 May 86

[Excerpts] Moscow, 20 May (TASS)--Mikhail Gorbachev had a meeting in the Kremlin today with the prime minister of Spain, secretary general of the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party Felipe Gonzalez.

When discussing international problems Mikhail Gorbachev and Felipe Gonzelez agreed that the interconnection and interdependence of states is rapidly growing despite the entire diversity and contradictory nature of the present-day world and pressingly dictating the need of a new mentality, of new approaches in world politics.

On the main question -- ending the arms race and liquidating the danger of nuclear war -- they agreed that understanding of the entire danger of the line that has been approached by the world is decisive. This calls for prompt collective efforts to strengthen the principles of peaceful coexistence, political interaction, dialogue and talks between various states. On confirming his consent to a new meeting with the American President Mikhail Gorbachev stressed that when assessing the prospects of this meeting one cannot depart from the real policy that is being pursued after the first meeting in Geneva. There is much in the behaviour of the United States Administration that is incompatible with political morals, worsens the international atmosphere, increases tension in Soviet-American relations and testifies to the intent to continue the policy of achieving military superiority and intensifying the arms race. There is no sign of steps taken in response to the Soviet initiatives after Geneva, there are no serious proposals concerning the possible practical results of a new summit meeting.

The problem of trust, which also cannot be isolated from readiness to do something concrete to lower the level of armaments, was discussed. If the arms race is spread to new spheres, if the ABM and SALT-2 treaties are undermined, the degree of mistrust will grow in geometrical progression and undermine to a still greater extent the stability of international relations.

The situation must be improved. To achieve this it is time to start somewhere, to start moving, to set an example. That is why we are proposing to start with the most understandable and possible steps that could be taken out of the overall context without disrupting the balance and violating anybody's security, that is to start with the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe and stopping nuclear tests.

The Soviet Union is prepared to search for mutually acceptable forms of control, but control over disarmament and not over the buildup and perfection of armaments. When it puts its signature to an agreement the Soviet Union keeps its word firmly.

We are in a serious mood, Mikhail Gorbachev went on. In connection with the Chernobyl accident we looked into the eyes of the danger posed by the atom when it escapes control. We shall not be found wanting in solving jointly with other countries the vital questions raised by the nuclear-space age.

As a result of their serious discussion, a frank and wellwishing comparison of positions, displaying mutual respect for opinions and differences of conditions Mikhail Gorbachev and Felipe Gonzalez arrived at the conclusion that it is necessary to deepen interaction between the USSR and Spain in mutual interests, in the interests of the whole of Europe and of improving the situation in the world, and expressed confidence that this visit will give a new impetus to the development of politicial dialogue, economic and cultural relations, to the expansion of friendly intercourse between the peoples of the two countries.

Mikhail Gorbachev wished the Spanish people progress and prosperity.

Felipe Gonzalez wished the Soviet people success in fulfilling the plans outlined by the 27th CPSU Congress.

Meets Gromyko

LD201939 Moscow TASS in English 1910 GMT 20 May 86

[Excerpts] Moscow, 20 May (TASS)--Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Andrey Gromyko today received in the Kremlin the Prime Minister of Spain Felipe Gonzalez and the personages accompanying him.

Felipe Gonzalez noted that he was greatly impressed by his frank and substantive conversation with Mikhail Gorbachev.

On mutual agreement Andrey Gromyko and Felipe Gonzalez concentrated their attention on international problems: state terrorism, the situation in Central America and the Mediterranean area.

Andrey Gromyko stressed that the Mediterranean area is an important and dangerous one. Figuratively speaking, its waters have a nuclear filling. The Soviet Union has come out for a radical solution of the problem in that area -- to turn the Mediterranean into a sea of peace.

The Spanish side also stated the need to solve the process of settlement in Central America with the help of the Contadora group and supported the Soviet proposals concerning the Mediterranean Sea.

The problem of European security was also discussed. Andrey Gromyko said that here the USSR has clear-cut proposals of the 27th CPSU Congress but the course of the talks on the European subject-matter bears the imprint of the overall dangerous situation which has now deteriorated in the world through the fault of the United States.

Felipe Gonzalez declared Spain's striving to achieve a positive solution in questions of European security. He also declared for the ending of the arms race, restoration of trust, expansion of East-West dialogue and cooperation, in particular between the Soviet Union and Spain.

Gonzalez 21 May Press Conference

PM231130 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 86 First Edition p 4

[Excerpts] The results of my visit to the Soviet Union are positive in all respects. I have been able to become more closely acquainted with the main aspects of the USSR's domestic and foreign policy and to see the Soviet Union's desire for fruitful dialogue, disarmament, detente, and peace. This was stated by Spanish Prime Minister R. Gonzalez at a 21 May press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists at the USSR Foreign Press Center.

The guest stressed that he had given himself two main aims: to study the possibility of achieving substantial progress in Spanish-Soviet relations in the political, economic, and cultural spheres, and to exchange opinions with the Soviet leadership on the key international problems of the day. It can be said, he noted, that these aims have been completely achieved. In this connection, I would particularly like to note the importance of my long and extremely meaningful talk with M.S. Gorbachev. The meeting with the CPSU Central Committee general secretary was not of the traditional kind [netraditsionnyy]; we asked each other many questions and spoke frankly and in detail. I reiterated my invitation to M.S. Gorbachev to visit Spain.

Touching on international problems, the Spanish prime minister highlighted the need for an extensive and productive East-West dialogue and the importance of strengthening trust in links and contacts among states belonging to different sociopolitical systems.

F. Gonzalez said that given an improvement in the overall political climate, progress could be achieved in spheres such as nuclear and conventional arms reductions and the development of the all-European process. Spain, he noted, is in a seemingly privileged position from the viewpoint of disarmament problems. There are no nuclear weapons on its territory and it has no plans to acquire any -- the country does not plan to produce its own nuclear weapons and does not intend to give siting permission for foreign nuclear weapons.

A necessary element in the plan for achieving disarmament, the guest continued, is reciprocity: There can be no such thing as unilateral security; security can only be reciprocal. That is why Spain advocates maintaining military equilibrium at the lowest possible level. In this context, F. Gonzalez stressed once again the importance of strengthening trust among all states.

Spain attaches great importance to the Helsinki process. The Madrid meeting was held not so long ago. Spain has done a great deal to ensure the successful completion of the meeting. My country is in favor of progress being achieved at the Stockholm Conference. That is also important from the viewpoint of giving positive momentum to the Vienna meeting to be held this fall within the CSCE framework.

Certain correspondents inquired whether the Moscow talks had touched on questions linked with the Chernobyl AES accident. F. Gonzalez noted that his country's government and the Spanish people expressed profound and sincere sympathy to the Soviet Union in connection with this disaster. The accident, he said, could happen in any other country and the main thing now is to draw the proper conclusions from it. We share the Soviet leadership's opinion of the need to create an international system for the safe utilization of nuclear power that would include exchanges of information.

The problems of nuclear security concern the interests of citizens of all countries. This concerns to an immeasurably greater extent the utilization of the atom for military purposes. Spain is a convinced advocate of disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, the Spanish prime minister noted.

Concluding the press conference, F. Gonzalez expressed the conviction that the results of the talks in the Soviet capital would promote a strengthening of mutual understanding between Spain and the Soviet Union in the interests of both countries and in the interests of improving the situation in Europe and worldwide.

Moscow TV Version of Press Conference

LD211642 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 21 May 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists by Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez took place in Moscow today. He stated that the results of his visit to the Soviet Union are positive in all respects. The meetings and conversations with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and other Soviet leaders have enabled me, Felipe Gonzalez stressed, to acquaint myself more closely with the basic features of the USSR's domestic and foreign policy and to see the Soviet Union's striving toward fruitful dialogue, detente, and peace.

Felipe Gonzalez replied to journalists' questions. Replying in particular to a question about Spain's contribution to the cause of solving all-European problems, including a successful conclusion to the Stockholm conference, he said: [video shows journalist reading question from his notebook, standing in the hall and cuts to Gonzalez saying]

[Gonzalez in Spanish fading into Russian translation] Spain is deeply and concretely interested in the success of a settlement in Europe not only as a full participant in European forums but also as a country seeking to assist the development of a bilateral dialogue between the USSR and the United States in Geneva, as well as the continuation of Soviet-U.S. meetings at summit level. Earlier, Spain did quite a lot so that the Madrid meeting would be crowned with success. At present we are ready to further in every possible way the successful completion of the conferences in Stockholm and Vienna in full accordance with the spirit of Helsinki.

Speaking specifically of the conference in Stockholm, we believe that after the intensive exchange of views that has taken place there, a maximum effort should be made to advance along the road toward the strengthening of measures of confidence of the continent.

Completing the press conference, Felipe Gonzalez expressed the conviction that the results of the talks in Moscow will assist the strengthening of mutual understanding between Spain and the Soviet Union in the interests of both countries and in the interests of the improvement of the situation in Europe and throughout the world.

Madrid Radio Version

LD211504 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 0600 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] In Moscow the press conference given by Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez to provide details of the long conversation -- almost 5 hours -- that he held yesterday with Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev is continuing.

The prime minister opened the press conference saying that the purpose of the visit -- to improve bilateral relations and jointly examine the international situation -- had been achieved, then went on to outline the main topics he had discussed with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev during the nearly 5-hour-long meeting they held yesterday.

[Begin Gonzalez recording -- broadcast in progress] ... devoted to an examination or an exposition, with questions and answers on both sides, of the evolution of events in Spain, the [word indistinct] of democratic change in Spain. We paid special attention to matters of modernizing the economic situation, and also to matters concerning Spain's foreign policy. We also examined the situation in the Soviet Union, their plans for economic modernization -- we talked at great length about those modernization plans as set forth in the theses delivered at the 27th congress in mid-February. From there we moved on to an examination of the international situation. This is a subject ranging from the foreign debts of some Third World countries and the need to find a suitable response to this, to the main area concerned with an examination of the international situation, namely matters to do with disarmament policy and peace in various forums. There are bilateral forums, to which we naturally attribute ecormous importance, given that the Soviet Union [words indistinct] has the greatest responsibility in the sense of (defending) a policy of disarmament, both strategic and tactical. And there are other forums, such as the Stockholm conference, which falls within the framework of the Conference, on Security and Cooperation in Europe. [end recording]

[Paris AFP in English at 1303 GMT on 21 May reports on the press conference and adds the following: "The Spanish premier said the talks (with Soviet leaders) had been 'extremely interesting and cordial' also had dealt with the Mediterranean and Central America, the Third World foreign debt and European cooperation."]

The meeting also dealt with the international situation created by the accident at the Soviet nuclear power station at Chernobyl. The two politicans, Felipe Gonzalez and Mikhail Gorbachev, declared themselves in agreement that all countries should cooperate to put an end to the risks inherent in accidents of this kind.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] And I can state something that I see as very positive. The thinking that has followed this accident generated a need to set up a mechanisism for exchange of information and for cooperation at an international level capable of helping everyone to be aware of, halt, foresee, or combat the consequences of accidents of this kind. Indeed, this subject came up in our talks. We had certain ideas about the role played by the IAEA, and we talked about this. I would say that the discussion was conducted with a tone of concern, but at the same time in a very constructive tone, which I hope it will be possible to maintain in the future as a dialogue between countries trying to foresee, and of course to combat, the consequences of disasters such as this. [end recording]

Mikhail Gorbachev and Felipe Gonzalez also spoke about the crisis in the Mediterranean, though they did not go into detail on this subject.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] There is a difference in our evaluation [words indistinct], differences of emphasis in our view of the problem. We are worried by certain kinds of activity that go beyond the usual essence of relations between states, activities that worry many of our countries, and specifically Spain. It emerged from what they said to us that for the Soviet Union it is difficult to understand how such activities can occur. You know what the Soviet Union's position is: It has condemned the U.S. intervention. You also know the Spanish position, one that we have stated repeatedly: We disagree with the use of force to solve major problems that concern us. These are known positions which we have stuck to throughout these talks. [end recording]

Arms reduction is also a common concern of the two politicians.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] My view is that any analysis aimed at reducing weapons of any kind must be attempted from a global standpoint, to ensure that disarmament is balanced and guarantees reciprocal security. [end recording]

We now have another report from our special correspondents in Moscow on further details of the press conference held by Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez; Carlos Agrasar and Mercedes Jansa from Moscow:

[Agrasar] I am going to make a brief summary of what Prime Minister Gonzalez has said since our last linkup and on what he is saying now. Prime Minister Gonzalez said that during his meeting with Gorbachev, there was no specific reference to holding an international conference to solve the Middle East problem, as the Soviet Union put forward, although the Spanish side is in favor of a peaceful and negotiated solution to the problems. They also did not discuss a forthcoming visit by Gorbachev to Latin America, as one of the journalists asked him.

[Jansa] The Spanish prime minister also referred to relations in the Mediterranean crisis and to the U.S. attack on Libya. On the crisis in the Mediterranean, Felipe Gonzalez said that any measure of detente will have to be seriously analyzed by all the countries and that any analysis aimed at reducing armaments in the Mediterranean will also have to be from the point of view of the balance of security and of the two sides' credibility to reduce armaments. On the subject of the Olympic Games, the prime minister was asked whether the Soviet Union will support the candidature of Barcelona for the Olympic Games in 1992. He was sparing in words, he said. The subject was discussed -- I believe that the candidature of Barcelona is a good candidature.

[Agrasar] There was not any comment between the two interlocutors on the results of the referendum on NATO in Spain. According to Prime Minister Gonzalez, the Soviet side accepts this decision of the Spanish people because it is a sovereign decision. Felipe Gonzalez does not believe that it is any obstacle to the ability of bilateral relations to continue to develop as usual.

[Jansa] Felipe Gonzalez repeated at this press conference that economic relations between Spain and the Soviet Union are only at one-third of the level of the exchange between the USSR and the various countries of the EEC. We have the duty to gain the ground lost following many years of diplomatic relations, Felipe Gonzalez said, to gain ground lost with tenacity and effort, which must continue following the contacts between businessmen and the Minister of Economy and Finance during this 48-hour official visit. Prime Minister Gonzalez was asked what point of view he had taken with

the top Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, on the possibility of cooperation in anti-terrorist matters among several countries in the area [word indistinct], in particular between Spain and the Soviet Union. Felipe Gonzalez said that an effort to reduce terrorism to its (?just), precise and [word indistinct] terms is necessary. Felipe Gonzalez is now being asked whether he can forecast the result of the forthcoming general election on 22 June in our country. Felipe Gonzalez merely said that he cannot forecast anything at the moment and that this was not the appropriate place to say anything about this.

[Agrasar] We are back to the room where Prime Minister Gonzalez is speaking. According to the announcement by the director general of press cooperation, Mr Castedo, it will last until 0837 this morning Spanish time.

[Begin Gonzalez recording -- broadcast in progress] ... the Soviet Union, the economic planning, and consequently the economic decision centers are centers of political responsibility as well, and consequently, where there is the possibility of a dialogue between governments in other social and economic systems. Businessmen deal directly with one another from firm to firm. Here, of course, the decisions made from the point of view of the plan must be taken into consideration, and the plan is established at the central level. I also would not like to appear to be defending or excluding some operations and including others, because the subjects of ships and railways are at a very interesting level of development. I believe that on the Spanish side, the same is true of the process of buying crude oil from the Soviet Union. But there are more subjects....[end recording]

The sound from Moscow of this press conference, which is being held by the prime minister, is not as good as we would like it to be. We will have another report from our special correspondents later and have a longer summary of what the prime minister said at this press conference, which we are broadcasting live.

Moscow Radio Assesses Visit

LD241107 Moscow in Spanish to Spain 1900 GMT 23 May 86

[Commentary by Moscow radio Observer Vladimir Malynin]

[Text] The first official visit to the USSR by Spanish head of government Felipe Gonzalez was without doubt a milestone in the history of our bilateral relations. During the constructive talks held in Moscow an analysis was made of pressing international subjects as well as the state of Soviet-Spanish relations.

Regarding the international agenda, the two sides agreed that the elimination of nuclear weapons and an end to the arms race are of decisive importance for bringing about a radical improvement in the world situation. The Soviet side laid particular emphasis on the need to prevent an arms race in space. The Soviet delegation stressed that the foreign policy initiatives and the proposal for a comprehensive system of international security advanced by the USSR are aimed at removing the threat of war and promoting international security.

Mindful of its responsibility for the security of its people and the whole of mankind, the Soviet Government has decided to extend the uniateral moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August. During his meeting with Felipe Gonzalez, USSR Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Ryzhkov said that it is absolutely essential to adopt a new approach in international relations and to combine the efforts of states with different social systems to end the worldwide arms race and drastically improve the world political climate. During the talks it was acknowledged that an indispensable element of normal East-West relations is a widespread productive dialogue in the political, parliamentary, and social spheres. Both sides attached primary importance to having agreed to contribute to strengthening peace and eliminating the arms race.

Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez highly assessed the Soviet initiatives on disarmament, saying that they are a considerable boost to the efforts to reduce and eliminate weapons. Bearing in mind the fact that the USSR and Spain are European states, the two sides said they are in favor of an active role by Europe in the recovery and improvement of detente and for developing the process of greater security and cooperation on the European Continent.

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RELATED ISSUES

TASS: PERLE CRITICIZES FRG SPD ON SDI STANCE, CW ARMS

LD281539 Moscow TASS in English 1525 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 28 May (TASS)--TASS commentator Petr Parkhitko writes:

Richard Perle, U.S. assistant secretary of defense, has delivered a stinging attack on the biggest opposition party of West Germany, the Social Democratic Party [SPD] of Germany, trying to impose upon it the U.S. idea of 'reshaping the world'. The official representative of Washington was displeased with the negative attitude of Social Democrats to the "star wars" program and with their support for the idea of creating in Europe zones free from chemical weapons and for the need of preserving the existing parity in the military sphere between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization.

Speaking Tuesday in Bonn at a session of the Friedrich Ebert Fund which is close to the Social Democratic Party of Germany, R. Perle began to lecture well-known FRG politicians on how they should understand the 'Atlantic solidarity'. He said unceremoniously that the policy pursued by the Social Democratic leadership could only make Moscow happy and add a feeling on uncertainty to the West.

One is sure to notice that Washington has been showing special interest of late in the Social Democratic Party of Germany and its initiatives. The overseas leaders cannot conceal the fact that the stand of that party with regard to problems of international politics does not suit the U.S.

It is not accidental that it is R. Perle who spoke in Bonn. He is one of the key figures in the Pentagon and an advocate of the most adventuristic militarist plans of the White House. R. Perle tried to exert pressure on the leaders of the party in order to facilitate the implementation of the U.S. program of action on the chemical 'additional armament' and a further heightening of tension in the world in general and in Europe in particular.

However, Washington's emissary was decisively repulsed. Social Democratic politicians, including Karsten Voight, Andreas von Bulow and others, denounced the U.S. policy from the position of strength and emphasized that it was aimed not at the consolidation of universal peace; but at a confrontation with the Soviet Union. According to the leadership of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, this policy can only lead to the isolation of the U.S. in the international arena.

The attempt of R. Perle to bring pressure to bear on Social Democrats is evidence of Washington's adventuristic approach to the solution of the problems of war and peace. However, West Europeans come to realize ever more clearly that these problems should be solved urgently and by joint efforts, on the basis of the understanding of the danger that is hanging over all the countries in equal measure.

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RELATED ISSUES

FRG SAARLAND PREMIER VISITS USSR

Arrives in Moscow

PM211347 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Moscow Arrival"]

[Text] O. Lafontaine, minister-president of Saarland (FRG), arrived in Moscow on 16 May. The prime minister and his entourage were met at the airport by A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

Talks With Gromyko

LD211655 Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 21 TASS -- Oskar Lafontaine: We believe that all efforts made by governments in the economic, cultural and other fields should aim for bringing about detente.

Andrey Gromyko: A good cause indeed!

These remarks opened a meeting between Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and Oskar Lafontaine, prime minister of Saar state (the FRG), a member of the board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany in the Kremlin today.

Andrey Gromyko expounded in detail the Soviet viewpoint on the problem of terminating nuclear weapon tests. This problem is understood by every person, even a layman. Despite the fact that the USSR extended the moratorium on nuclear explosions till August 6, 1986, the U.S. Administration with strange fanaticism insists on the conduct of nuclear weapons tests and carries them out.

The Soviet Union believes that a test ban would become an important element of a series of measures which would facilitate more radical decisions. If the West German Government put its weight behind the idea of ending nuclear tests, it would make a great contribution to the relaxation of tension and to progress towards the elimination of nuclear weapons. But it is not doing so.

The sides agreed that the ending of nuclear tests was a priority goal today. At the same time Oskar Lafontaine stressed that he was opposed to any use of nuclear energy.

Andrey Gromyko replied that the Soviet Union was consistently opposed to the military uses of nuclear energy, as is shown by a large-scale program for the elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of this century, put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev in his statement of January 15, 1986 and reiterated by the resolutions of the 27th CPSU Congress. As for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, we should reckon with realities: "Peaceful atom" has already become a sizeable industrial sector in many countries.

Both sides expressed their common view that it was necessary to work out international agreements with the aim to ensure safety in the development of nuclear power engineering and to draw into the process as many countries as possible. The Chernobyl accident calls for it, it is demanded by broad public circles the world over. This view is understandable to millions of people.

Andrey Gromyko emphasized that the response to the present-day demand of nations consisted in a combined implementation of two tasks -- on the one hand, international cooperation in peaceful uses of nuclear energy and, on the other hand, the successful struggle for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Unfortunately, a handful of politicians who oppose this approach are a stumbling bloc on this way. Should we risk the lives of millions of people in order to satisfy the ambitions of this handful of politicians who are possessed by the idea of achieving military superiority and are imposing their "star war" plans on other countries?

Oskar Lafontaine described the USSR's proposals on ending nuclear testing as good. We will always support them, he said. The negative stand of the SPD on the U.S. SDI programme and plans for the chemical weapons race was reaffirmed.

The mutual wish and striving was expressed to broaden relations between the Soviet Union and the FRG on the basis of the Moscow Treaty of 1970. The fruitfulness of such cooperation was demonstrated in the past, is felt at present and can manifest itself with fresh force in future, if both countries strive.

Comments on Talks

LD211945 Hamburg DPA in German 1321 GMT 21 May 86

[Excerpt] Moscow, 21 May -- Oskar Lafontaine (SPD), minister-president of the Saarland, was received by Soviet head of state Andrey Gromyko in Moscow on Wednesday at the start of his political talks. Lafontaine told Western correspondents that a region-twinning arrangement between the Soviet republic of Georgia and the Saarland was agreed as a result of his talk. A treaty to this effect was still to be signed.

Hitherto, there was already a town-twinning arrangement between Saarbruecken and the Georgian republican capital of Tbilisi. Lafontaine returned to Moscow on Tuesday after a 4-day visit to Georgia.

According to him, during the 1 and 1/2 hour talk, Lafontaine explained his attitude toward nuclear energy which, in his view, should not be used either militarily or peacefully. Gromyko, to be sure, spoke out against a military use of nuclear energy, but stressed that the Soviet Union intends to continue to back the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

They also spoke about topics in international disarmament, Lafontaine said. He welcomed the extension of the Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests up to 6 August. This is a first step on the road toward international disarmament, which other states possessing nuclear weapons should join.

Meets With Dobrynin, Zagladin

LD211948 Moscow TASS in English 1850 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 21 TASS -- Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Vadim Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, met today with Oskar Lafontaine, prime minister of Saarland (West Germany), member of the board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany.

During the conversation the sides discussed some questions connected with the international situation, the consolidation of security and cooperation on the European Continent and the development of relations between the CPSU and the Social Democratic Party of Germany.

The sides noted the identity of views on the need for taking effective measures by all countries aimed at curtailing the arms race, eliminating nuclear and chemical weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, and substantially reducing conventional armaments, especially in Europe.

The sides went on record in favour of the development of constructive cooperation between the West and the East in various spheres in the interest of peace and people.

News Conference

PM271631 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In Favor of Expanded Cooperation"]

[Text] The aim of my visit to the Soviet Union was to promote the development of economic relations between Saarland (FRG) and the USSR, including the expansion of partnership ties between Saarbruecken and Tbilisi and Saarland and Georgia, O. Lafontaine, minister-president of Saarland and member of the Board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany said at a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists held at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center on 23 May. Lafontaine is in our country at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

The guest noted that, in addition to questions pertaining to the expansion of economic cooperation, a wide range of international problems was discussed during his visit. He said that the sides had noted that their viewpoints coincided on such issues as ending nuclear tests, preventing the arms race from spreading to space, and creating nuclear-free and chemical weapon-free zones in Europe.

Ending nuclear tests would be a first step toward confidence building and disarmament, the minister-president emphasized. It is beyond question that any agreements in the disarmament sphere must be subject to verification [kontrol]. In our view, O. Lafontaine said, the technical facilities for monitoring [kontrol] nuclear tests presents no problem.

Touching on the question of economic contacts, he said that there are many spheres in Saarland and in the USSR where mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries is possible.

O. Lafontaine said that he had the opportunity to express profound sympathy to the Soviet people in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl AES. He noted that the feeling of compassion should be in the forefront of international reaction to this disaster. Concern over the events at Chernobyl and the unleashing of an anti-Soviet campaign must have nothing in common with each other.

The minister-president of Saarland noted that his talks in the Soviet Union were held in a friendly and frank atmosphere, even when it was a matter of questions on which there were differences of opinion. My visit was useful and has produced positive results, the guest emphasized.

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